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NAUSCOPY, or the Art of Diſcovering Ships and Land at a great Diſtance.

(The following account of this curious art is given in a publication of M. Bottineau, the diſcoverer, in anſwer to a French reviewer, who had treated the diſcovery with ridicule.)

IT appears that M. Bottineau laid his diſcovery before M. de Caſtries, and that M. de Caſtries ſent him back to the iſland of Bourbon, to make his obſervations under the eyes of the government there. He ſtates what paſſed there in the following manner.

"The adminiſtrators ordered me to give them *informations for eight months together*. To this I conſented; but at the ſame time required that,

I. An exact regiſter ſhould be kept in the offices of government, and of the intendancy, of every *information* which I ſhould ſend, *in writing*.

II. That my *informations* ſhould be regiſtered in the ſame order in which they ſhould be ſent.

III. That they ſhould alſo keep an exact memorandum of the *obſervations* which ſhould be ſent by me after the *informations*, in order that they might be arranged and extended.

IV. That my *informations* and *obſervations* ſhould be compared with the ſhips books they concerned at the time of their arrival.

V. I obſerved to the adminiſtrators, that allowance was to be made in the *informations*

formations for the variations of the *sea* and the *weather*, which might retard the arrival of a ship, and so prevent its agreeing with my *informations*; that the same process shall be observed with regard to ships bound to other coasts. But at the same time I repeated the assurance, that not a single ship would arrive which I had not sent *information of several days before*.

Matters being thus understood, it was settled that the *examination* should begin as early as the 15th of *May* 1782, and that the eight months should begin from that day.

In consequence of this, the very next day I sent to the government, and to the intendancy, *information* of *three* ships very near the island, which had been detained three or four days by a *calm*, and which would be perceived by the watchmen in the course of 48 *hours*, if a breeze arose.

The *information* was registered accordingly thus It must be observed, that, at this period, the *watchmen* stationed upon the mountains did not perceive any appearance of ships.

But on the 17th, in the afternoon, the *watchmen* made a signal that they perceived a ship to the leeward of the island.

The 18th a *second* ship made its appearance coming from the Cape of Good Hope.

At last, on the 20th, the appearance of a *third* ship confirmed the extreme exactness of my *information*.

The 19th, very early in the morning, I gave notice of some other vessels, different from those announced on the 16th, being at the distance of *two days* from the island, which would appear in the course of that time, if no difficulties arose either from the sea or the weather.

Accordingly on the 20th a *Dutch ship* arrived, coming from the Cape of Good Hope.

The 21st another ship made its appearance, coming from the coast.

On the same day another Dutch ship, coming from Batavia.

On the 27th of May, at 9 o'clock in the evening, I discovered a vessel at the distance of more than *three days* from the island, of which I immediately sent *information*, and which was to arrive on the 30th, if it met with no impediment.

Two days after, that is to say the 29th, that vessel began to be perceived by the observers situated on the mountains, and on the 30th it arrived.

(This ship was the Castries, coming to France, which brought the news of the arrival of M. de Bussi at the Cape of Good Hope).

On the 29th of May towards noon, I gave information of a vessel which would appear in less than 48 hours.

On the same day arrived a king's cutter, with a *single mast*, dispatched to France to announce the arrival of M. de Bussi.

It must well be imagined that the ship which carried M. de Bussi did not escape my notice. On the 31st of May I described it with the same exactness which always attended my informations.

I should be thought tedious were I to give a regular account of all my informations, and of the result which bears testimony to the faithfulness of them. I shall content myself with citing those which are most striking.

On the 20th of August 1784, I found out that some vessels were at the distance of four days; on the 21st and 23d the number of these vessels multiplied considerably to my sight: this obliged me to send *information of many vessels*. There was a probability that it might be the fleet of M. de Reynier, which had been impatiently expected for two months.

But though this fleet was only at four days distance, I nevertheless observed that no settled time could be pointed out for its arrival, as it was detained by a *calm* and by contrary *winds*.

On the 25th, the calm was so complete as to make me believe for a few hours that the fleet had disappeared, and was gone to some other place.

But soon after I perceived the presence of the fleet by the revived signs: it was still in the same state of inaction and tranquillity; of which I immediately sent *information*.

From the 20th of August to the 10th of September, that is to say, during twenty-one days, I did not cease to observe, and to announce, the *continuation of the calm* which detained the ships in question.

But from the 11th, having found out that the obstacle was removed, I declared it on the 13th to the administrators, by anouncing that the fleet was at two *days distance*; accordingly, to the universal surprise of every one, on the 15th, that is to say, on the second day, M. de Reynier's fleet arrived: but the astonishment was afterwards much increased, when it was known that the fleet had remained

mained since the 20th of August at the height of Rodriguez islands, that is to say, precisely at the distance which I had pointed out in my informations, and that it had been detained there by the calm and by contrary winds for the space of one and twenty days.

I soon had another opportunity of shewing the accuracy of my observations.

A few days before the arrival of M. de Reynier's fleet, I announced to the administrators the appearance of *another fleet*, which became perceptible to me. This gave a great deal of uneasiness; because, no other French fleet being expected, that I had found out might be an English one. The administrators having made me repeat my observations, I was again convinced of the passage of a fleet, and declared that it was not bound for the island, but that it had taken another road.

I was asked, whether it would not be necessary to send a cutter to observe the fleet? I answered, that this precaution was useless, because the fleet having had fine weather, had sailed away two days before; and that, besides, a single cutter would run the risk of taking a contrary way.

Nevertheless on the very next day, by break of day, the frigate the Naïade, and the Duc de Chartres a cutter, were suddenly dispatched with some information for M. de Suffrein.

The cutter, on its return from India, reported that it had really met with and avoided the English fleet in the ninth degree; that unfortunately it had not found M. de Suffrein in the Bay of Trincamalle, which had given time to the fleet to arrive. The report of the cutter had entirely convinced the incredulous of the reality of the discovery.

This last expedition proves, on the one part, the confidence which the administrators put in my informations, and, on the other, the right which I had to this confidence by the exactness of my informations.

But the administrators had not waited till this time to give me tokens of their conviction.

Ever since the month of August they had employed the Sieur de Ceré, director of the King's garden, to offer me from them 10,000 livres in ready money, and 1200 livres pension, if I would communicate the secret of my discovery.

The Sieur de Ceré having employed the Sieur de Fabre, surgeon-major, to make these proposals to me, I refused them. This induced the Sieur de Ceré to come himself several times with a reiteration of the first offer from the *administrators*; but notwithstanding his entreaties, I persevered in my refusal, as I am able to prove by the following piece. [Then follows a document, signed *Fabré*, which confirms this assertion.]

The principal reason for this refusal was, that, having formed the resolution of returning to France, to carry there the first principles of this new science, this did not allow me to contract any engagement which would have prevented this voyage.

The eight months, however, which had been fixed for the examination of my discovery were elapsed: I had undoubtedly fulfilled my engagment with a tolerable success, since I had announced *one hundred and fifty vessels* in *sixty-two informations*; none of which were found to be false.

Finding, therefore, that the time was drawing near which I had determined for my departure, I addressed myself to the administrators of the island, in order to obtain from them the testimony which I was obliged to furnish the Minister with.

I was well aware that my obstinate refusal to give up the principle of my discovery, even *for money*, had disinclined the administrators towards me, and that it was with regret that they saw a discovery carried out of the island, which by its birth seemed to belong to it: but I well knew that the respect they had for truth would prevail over private resentment.

Accordingly, at my desire, the administrators caused to be delivered to me a report, in form of a letter, directed to the *Marechal de Castries*, containing the most authentic and most explicit testimony of the reality of the discovery, and of the success of my experiments.

This letter is too interesting to be suppressed.

At the Port Louis, Island of France, the 18th February 1784.

My Lord,

A letter, which you have written on the 6th of April, to M. Bottineau, employed in the King and Company's service in this colony, obliges us not to refuse him one for you, of which he proposes being himself the bearer. The desire only of being useful to this country is, as he says, the motive which determines him to take this step. He would be angry with himself were he to conceal

a discovery which hath hitherto escaped the most enlightened persons, and of which he only is in possession. This discovery is the art of announcing the presence of one or several ships at 100, 150, and as far as 200 leagues distance. This is by no means the result of his studies, nor the fortunate application of the principles of any particular science; his science is in his eyes only, and he can have no other: what we call penetration and genius cannot make up to him *what he is deficient in from education**. He perceives, as he says, in nature, some signs which indicate to him the presence of the vessels, as we know that there is a fire in a place when we perceive the smoke which comes from it. This is the comparison which he makes use of himself to those who have conversed with him about his art: this (*though he has kept his secret to himself*) is the plainest thing he has said, in order to make it be understood that he hath not made this discovery by the knowledge of any art or science which had been the object of his application, or of his former studies.

It is, according to him, the effect of chance: he hath taken nature in the act, and hath discovered his secret; so that his science, or rather the first elements of it, hath not cost him the least trouble: but the thing which hath cost him a great deal of labour, and which may be really called his own, is the art of *judging of the exact distance*.

According to him, the signs very clearly indicate the presence of ships; but none but those who can *well read these signs* can draw any conclusions from them with regard to distances; and this art of reading them well is, according to him, a true and a very laborious study: for this reason he hath himself for a very long time been the dupe of his science. *It is at least fifteen years since he first foretold here the arrival of ships.* At first this was regarded only as a frolic. Wagers were laid on both sides. He often lost, because the ships did not arrive at the time prescribed by him. From thence came his application to find out the cause of these mistakes; and the perfection of his art is the result of this application.

Since the war, his informations have *greatly increased*, and probably were *sufficiently exact to excite the attention of the public*. The noise of them reached us with the degree of enthusiasm which is always excited by the marvellous. He himself spoke of the reality of his science with the tone of a *man convinced*. It would have been too *cruel* to have dismissed him as a *visionary*.

Besides, *every thing depended upon proofs*, and we *required* that he should produce some: in consequence, he hath *regularly sent us, for eight months*, the *informations* which he thought he might venture to send us; and the result is, *that several of the ships he announced are arrived at the time he foretold after several days of information.*

Others have come *later than was expected*, and *some have not appeared at all.*

With regard to some of these, it hath been ascertained, that their delay had been occasioned by *calms* or by *currents*. M. Bottineau is persuaded that those which *never appeared* were *foreign vessels which went on*; and *accordingly* we have *learned* that some *English ships* were arrived in India, which might perhaps have been in sight of the island at the time indicated. But this is no more than a conjecture, which our occupations have not allowed to investigate. *What we can ascertain* is, that *in general* it appears that M. Bottineau *hath made just observations*: whether it is owing to *chance* or to his abilities, it might be, perhaps, imprudent to determine. It is, however, *certain*, that the *fact is so extraordinary, under whatever light it is considered*, that we have not thought ourselves able to either *affirm* or *deny it*; and we have wished the Sieur Bottineau to compell us to take *one or the other side of the question*, by *trusting his secret to some trusty and able person*. But this he hath refused, being probably afraid that he should not acquire, by the discovery, all the benefit which he imagines he may reap from it.

Supposing the *reality* of the discovery, we do not believe that its utility can be as *important as* M. Bottineau *persuades himself it is*; but it might perhaps throw a great light upon natural history. *In order to be useful, it would be necessary that the discovery should be confined to one nation, and remain unknown to all others. This will be impossible, if every fleet, every vessel, and every*

* This unkind observation, and some others as little founded, which will be observed in this letter, must be attributed to a secretary intrusted with the revisal. This man, after having often endeavoured to get my secret from me, never forgave the firmness with which I refused him, and he suffered no opportunity by which he could make me sensible of his resentment to escape him.

every privateer, is obliged to carry a man on board who is in poſſeſſion of this ſecret.

" We remain, with reſpect, My Lord,
Your moſt humble, and moſt obedient ſervants,
" LE VTE. DE SOUILLAC,
" CHEVREAU."

M. Bottineau anſwers the objections mentioned in the letter, as will be eaſily conceived; he then produces ſeveral other reſpectable atteſtations to the truth of his aſſertions of what paſſed whilſt he ſtaid in the iſland, and proceeds to give the account of his return to Europe. In the courſe of the voyage he gave proofs of the ſame accuracy of obſervation, having diſcovered twenty-ſeven ſhips and three different lands; all of which are ſtated in his journal. He landed at Port l'Orient on the 13th of June 1784. " But government, (continues the author), were ſo teaſed with projects and projectors of all kinds, that they had no time to attend to me." He then proceeds to give an account of his ſecret, or the principles on which his diſcoveries were made.

NAUSCOPY is the art of diſcovering the approach of ſhips, or the neighbourhood of lands, at a conſiderable diſtance.

This knowledge is not derived either from the undulation of the waves, nor from ſubtilty of ſight, nor from any particular ſenſation; but merely from obſervation of the *horizon*, which diſcovers ſigns indicating the proximity of ſhips or of land.

On the *approximation* of a ſhip towards the land, or towards another ſhip, there appears in the atmoſphere a *meteor* of a particular nature, viſible to every one without any *painful attention*. It is not by any kind of accident that this meteor appears under theſe circumſtances; on the contrary, it is the *neceſſary* reſult of the approximation of one veſſel towards another, or towards the land. The exiſtence of the *meteor*, and the knowledge of its different modifications, are what conſtitute the certainty and the preciſion of my informations.

If I am aſked, How it is poſſible that the approach of a ſhip towards land ſhould give birth to any *meteor* whatſoever in the atmoſphere, and what connection there can be between two objects at ſuch a diſtance from each other? I reply, that I am not obliged to give an account of the *hows* and the *wherefores*; that it is ſufficient for me to have diſcovered the fact, without being obliged to account for its principle."

The writer concludes, by deſiring to be called on for experimental proofs, and by promiſing in future a complete treatiſe of Nauſcopy, with maps, plates, &c. *Mat. Rev.*

SIR, *Feb.* 11.

THE following is an original letter from a very ingenious lady to a gentleman well known in the literary world. It was occaſioned by a converſation concerning the character and conduct of Queen Eliſabeth; and contains, in my opinion, the beſt ſtate of the argument in favour of the moral and intellectual excellence of the female ſex that I have ever ſeen. I am not at liberty to mention names: if I were, thoſe of the parties would reflect no ſmall degree of reſpect on this epiſtle.

Gent. Mag. Yours, &c.

" *My good Friend,*

Shall I confeſs to you, that, on reflecting upon the converſation of laſt night relative to the abilities and conduct of Queen Eliſabeth, I was much ſurpriſed at one poſition advanced by you, " that if there was upon record one inſtance where the female mind approached towards the ſuperiority of the manly character, it was to be found in her." Shall I conclude from this aſſertion, that your opinions of the natural equality ſubſiſting between the two ſexes, with reſpect to mental endowments, is changed? or have I hitherto been miſtaken in believing that ſuch were your ſentiments?

Now, leaving Eliſabeth out of the diſpute, whom, if duplicity, treachery, and tyranny, be virtues amongſt men, I allow to have poſſeſſed the true manly character; I beg to be informed in what the boaſted ſuperiority of your ſex conſiſts? Greater, or equal bodily ſtrength we of this age and country will not diſpute with you, nor that, in conſequence of this endowment, you have attained to be our rulers and legiſlators; to fix what value you pleaſe upon thoſe purſuits in which you have choſen to engage, and to ſtamp with degradation thoſe offices and employments which you have aſſigned to us. I will neither inſiſt upon your croſſing the Atlantic to obſerve amongſt the Eſquimaux women, whoſe natural robuſtneſs is equal to that of the men, and whoſe contempt of danger is, perhaps, ſuperior to that of the hardieſt European; nor will I enumerate the names of thoſe illuſtrious women, in our ſection of the globe,

globe, who have rivalled you in every branch of ſcience and literature. I wiſh to call your attention, not to particular inſtances, but to mankind in general; and then to aſk you, whether thoſe qualities which nature, education, and cuſtom, have allotted to women, are in the eye of unprejudiced reaſon leſs uſeful or leſs virtuous than thoſe which the men have appropriated tothemſelves? If they are not, where is the inferiority of women; in what reſpect are they leſs honourable; and, in what conſiſts your vaunted greatneſs? Is it in bodily ſtrength? there we allow your ſuperiority. Is it in boldneſs and courage? there too we diſclaim all pretenſions. Is it in all thoſe arts which meliorate, improve, and embelliſh life? there we riſe ſuperior. Is it in real virtue? pardon me for ſaying we cannot there allow you an equality.

The truth is, we are both imperfect beings; and Plato, in his beautiful fable, compliments us, perhaps, too highly, when he ſuppoſes the beſt qualities of both ſexes conjoined would make a perfect creature. We have each our peculiar excellencies; we have each our peculiar defects; we have each our peculiar allotments. We pretend not to the glory of deſtroying the human race, nor delighting in the fields of carnage and ſlaughter; nor do we aſpire to the merit of negotiating ſelfiſh and illiberal ſyſtems of policy, or forming plans for the deſolation and conqueſt of neighbouring empires. In the acquiſitions of ſcience, we confeſs that your ſuperior advantages of education, and favourable circumſtances for improvement, raiſe you above us; yet, when we allow this, we muſt aſſert, that our natural rights, and our natural abilities, are quite equal to yours. To your coporeal ſtrength, we oppoſe our natural gentleneſs; to your boldneſs in encountering difficulties, our fortitude in ſuſtaining them; and, to your ſuperior advantages of education, our docility, our vivacity, and, in general, our taſte and delicacy.

Take then all the ſuperiority which you have to boaſt of; your ſtrength, which enables you to traverſe oceans, and to endure the rigours of the moſt inclement ſkies, in the purſuits of ambition or avarice: Take thoſe mental aquirements in which nature formed us to excel; and, in which, in defiance of every diſcouragement and difficulty that a confined or perverted education places in our way, many of our ſex have riſen to deſerved eminence: Take your boaſted learning, which too frequently enflates you with arrogance, or depreſſes you with the weight of faſtidiouſneſs: Take your ungoverned paſſions, your power to rule, and your licence to commit evil without reſtraint: Take too all the *demi men* of ancient or modern ſtory, whoſe names are recorded in earthly annals, and range on your ſide Semiramis, Boadicea, Queen Eliſabeth, and Catharine II. Give to us the credit of thoſe millions of virtuous women whoſe names are written in Heaven:—Grant to us our patience under affliction—our fortitude, I had almoſt ſaid our magnanimity, in ſuffering—our gentleneſs—our tenderneſs—our ſubdued, or well regulated paſſions:—and our virtuous conduct: Allow us theſe, and we can feel no inferiority. Our departments in the world are indeed different, but, if well fulfilled, equally great and reſpectable. We have an equal claim to the honours and happineſs of this life, and ſhall be equal partakers in that which is to come.

I ſhall only add to ſo ſermonical a concluſion, the aſſurance, that I am, your *Manſhip's* ſincere friend. E. T.

Extract from an Eſſay "on the Regeneration of Animal Subſtances, by Charles White, Eſq; F. R. S, &c. read Dec. 18. 1782."

[From Memoirs of the Literary and Philoſophical Society of Mancheſter.]

CRabs and lobſters caſt their ſhells, both from their bodies, legs, and claws, and even caſt their ſtomachs, generally every year, which are immediately regenerated. The ſhell is renewed by a fluid which they eject; and it inveſts their whole body, growing hard and dry, in a ſhort time, and becoming as ſtrong a ſhell as that which they had before. But what is more extraordinary, they frequently loſe a leg or a claw in their combats, which are very frequent and furious: the loſt part will be regenerated in about three weeks, and be almoſt of its natural ſize. Brown, in his Hiſtory of Jamaica, informs us, that the claw of the violet crab, in ſeizing its food, catches ſuch an hold, that the animal loſes its limb ſooner than its graſp; the claw continuing its retentive power for above a minute, whilſt the crab is moving off.

In the polypus, not only young ones will grow out like warts from different parts of the body, drop off, live, and grow;

grow; but you may cut them into a thouſand pieces, and turn them inſide out, and they will ſtill live, and do well; this is accounted for by its whole body being compoſed of ſtomach and parts of generation; the latter not being peculiar organs, but merely particles of the ſtomach, which are its body, each part of which has the power of producing the like. Its food is converted into chyle in the ſtomach; abſorbents opening into the part take up the chyle; and theſe, at ſome diſtance from their mouths, become arteries.

If the *Actinia Urtica Marina*, *Animal flower*, or *Sea-Anemone*, be cut through the middle, either tranſverſely or longitudinally, both parts will ſurvive the operation. Nay further, if you tear them from the rock or ſhell, to which they generally adhere, and a ſhred is left behind, it will become a freſh and perfect animal.

The earth-worm and ſea-worm will live after being cut in two; but, what moſt ſurpriſing, the ſmall red-headed earth-worm being cut in two, both extremities ſurvive the operation; the head produces a tail, with the anus, the inteſtines, the anular muſcles, and the prickly beards: the tail, on the other hand, is ſeen to ſhoot forth the noble organs, and, in leſs than three months, ſends forth a head, heart, together with all the apparatus and inſtruments of generation. Theſe parts, as may be eaſily ſuppoſed, were produced much ſlower than the former; a new head taking nearly three months for its completion; a new tail ſhooting forth in leſs than as many weeks. The lizard, and alſo the viper, caſt their ſkin, and ſome ſay their tail, and even their eyes; and the ſea-ſlug is ſaid to caſt its head; all which are regenerated.

The buck caſts its horns every ſpring, which are reproduced in a few months. But if he be caſtrated when young, he will have no horns at all, or ſmall buds only, and thoſe ſoft to the touch, like velvet, and void of firmneſs. Dr Ruſſell informs us, that he had two old bucks caſtrated at the end of February, and their horns dropped off the 21ſt of March following, ſo that the fall of their horns was anticipated five weeks at leaſt. Theſe horns were renewed next year, and were longer than the bucks of the ſame age; but the palms, or collateral branches, were leſs and ſhorter, and neither the velvet of the horns, nor the horns themſelves, were ever caſt afterwards.

I ſhall now beg leave to lay before the ſociety, two caſes, that have not been publiſhed, in order to prove ſtill further the doctrine I have been endeavouring to eſtabliſh.

Roger Nuttal, of Bury, twenty years of age, was admitted an in-patient of the Mancheſter infirmary, under my care, on the 23d of January 1775, for a tumor on his back. Upon ſtripping off his ſhirt to ſhew me the tumor, I was ſtruck with a very ſingular appearance of a ſtump of the right humerus. I aſked him if he was born with it in that form, or whether his arm had been taken off. He informed me, that Mr Kay Allen had taken his arm off cloſe to the ſhoulder, when he was but four years old, and that the ſtump was grown again to that length, which ſeemed to be about eight inches longer than he deſcribed it to have been immediately after the amputation. I inquired, both of his mother and Mr Allen, as to the truth of his relation, which they both confirmed; and the latter with this addition, that the arm was taken off as near the ſhoulder as the application of the tournequet would permit. The bone had every degree of firmneſs and ſolidity, and the ſtump was warm to the extreme point, and, he informed me, was perfectly ſenſible when touched.

Some years ago I delivered a lady of rank of a fine boy, who had two thumbs upon one hand, or rather a thumb double from the firſt joint, the outer one rather leſs than the other, each part having a perfect nail. When he was about three years old, I was deſired to take off the leſſer one, which I did; but to my great aſtoniſhment it grew again, and along with it the nail. The family afterwards went to reſide in London, where his father ſhowed it to that excellent operator, William Bromfield, Eſq; ſurgeon to the Queen's houſehold, who ſaid, he ſuppoſed that Mr White, being afraid of damaging the joint, had not taken it wholly out; but he would diſſect it out entirely, and then it would not return. He accordingly executed the plan he had deſcribed, with great dexterity, and turned the ball fairly out of the ſocket: notwithſtanding this it grew again, a freſh nail was formed, and the thumb remains in this ſtate.

The concluſions I would draw from theſe facts are, that in the human ſpecies, not only fleſh, ſkin, and bones may be regenerated, but membranes, ligaments, cartilages, glands, blood veſſels, and even nerves; and this for the wiſeſt purpoſes,

poſes, that every part may be repaired in its own kind, and in ſome manner reſtored by the coagulable lymph, which is poured out, and becomes vaſcular, and forms organized parts.

By this wiſe proviſion of nature, the many accidents to which we are continually expoſed, are often more completely repaired, than art could be able to accompliſh.

In ſome animals we ſee this regenerating and living principle carried ſtill to a much greater length, where not only whole limbs, but even the more noble organs, are reproduced.

The ſtudy of nature is not only engaging and pleaſant to a high degree, but it inſpires us with ſuch a reſpect and admiration of the Almighty Being, that it is impoſſible either for a naturaliſt or an anatomiſt to be an Atheiſt.

They have conſtantly before their eyes ſo many wonderful living machines, differently wrought, yet ſo completely faſhioned, and all tending to one great point, the preſervation of themſelves and their ſpecies; in which there are ſo many orders of veſſels, one depending upon onother, yet complete in themſelves; capable of repairing injuries they may ſuſtain, and even of reſtoring loſt ſubſtances; that men who daily ſee ſuch objects muſt be convinced, that theſe admirable fabrics cannot have proceeded from chance, but muſt have been the work of an Omnipotent Creator, who has formed them with the moſt perfect wiſdom, and attention to their ſeveral intereſts and ſituations;

And ſpite of Pride, in erring Reaſon's ſpite,
One truth is clear, Whatever is, is right.
Eſſay on Man.

Anecdote of Marechal VILLARS.

IT is well known that the Marechal valued himſelf upon his diſintereſtedneſs, the ſtrict diſcipline he maintained in the army, and the ſevere juſtice exerciſed on delinquents of all kinds. Talking on this ſubject one day in a circle in Paris, he told the company, that in one of his campaigns in Germany, great complaints were made againſt the commiſſary of ſtores for frauds of various kinds, which were clearly proved. I ſent for the fellow, ſaid the Marechal, and after reproaching him with his guilt, declared I would hang him up as an object of terror to others! on which he had the impudence to tell me, that he was worth 100,000 louis d'ors, and that I could produce no precedent of a man worth ſuch a ſum being hanged. The Marechal here ſtopped; and the company crying out, Well, what did you to the man?—I do not know how it was, replied the Marechal, but the villain was not hanged.

[The following is taken from an Eſſay on Crimes and Puniſhments, by the Rev. William Turner, read March 24 1784, before the Literary and Philoſophical Society of Mancheſter, and publiſhed in their Memoirs.]

IN one of the midland counties of England, not many years ago, an unnatural ſon hired a bravo to murder his father. In conſequence of the old man's death, a proclamation was iſſued out, offering a reward to any one who would diſcover the offender, and a pardon to any accomplice *who was not the immediate murderer*. The ſon informed againſt the perſon whom he had himſelf hired, and upon his conviction and execution claimed and obtained the pardon and the reward.*—We cannot (ſays Mr Turner) if we wiſhed it, conceive a more glaring inſtance of moral depravity; and yet, by human laws properly conſtituted, this moſt atrocious of all perſons was not only indemnified, but rewarded, for that very action in which his villany was moſt eminently apparent.

* Dr Aikin (a man never to be mentioned by his pupils but with gratitude and veneration) produced this inſtance, in his Ethical Lectures, as a caſe which happened in Leiceſterſhire during his reſidence at Kibworth

Preſent Calculation of Spirits ſmuggled into Great Britain.

	Gallons.
Kent,	1,200,000
Suſſex,	1,000,000
Hampſhire,	700,000
Dorſetſhire,	600,000
Cornwall,	500,000
Somerſetſhire,	400,000
Wales,	200,000
Glouceſterſhire,	600,000
Devonſhire,	100,000
Eſſex,	300,000
Lancaſhire,	600,000
Weſtmoreland,	100,000
Cumberland,	100,000
Scotland,	1,000,000
Northumberland,	100,000
Yorkſhire,	300,000
Lincolnſhire,	100,000
Norfolk,	600,000
Suffolk,	600,000
Total,	9,100,000

Some

Some Account with regard to the Travels of JAMES BRUCE, *Esq; of Kinnaird* *.

THE many voyages for the better knowledge of the globe we inhabit have been one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed glories of the preſent reign.

Moſt of theſe, however, have rather been undertaken to explore very diſtant ſeas and coaſts, than to procure information with regard to the interior parts of the four great continents.

In Europe even, we are not ſo well acquainted with diſtricts which belong to the Turkiſh empire as we ſhould be; and we are ſtill more ignorant in the Aſiatic quarter, of that immenſe tract which lies between Thibet and the north-eaſt extremity.

As for South America, we muſt be chiefly contented with ſuch opportunities of acceſs as the jealouſy of the Spaniards will ſometimes indulge to the curioſity of the French, though ſuch reſearches are always denied to Engliſhmen.

The more interior parts of Africa, however, are equally open to every European nation, provided it contains travellers of enterpriſe and abilities; and in this diviſion of the globe the admiſſion to Abyſſinia hath generally been ſuppoſed to be the moſt difficult.—It is therefore much to be regretted, that when an Engliſhman (ſo eminently qualified as Mr Bruce) hath made ſo long a reſidence in this unfrequented empire, that the public ſhould not have yet received the very intereſting information from him which he is certainly enabled to give them. It is much to be feared, indeed, that the proſpect of this communication is a diſtant one, and perhaps only to be expected after Mr Bruce's death, which both his make and health ſeem to remove the danger of for ſeveral years.

A late traveller, however, the Baron de Tott, hath inſinuated, that Mr Bruce was never at the ſources of the Nile, becauſe Mr Bruce's ſervant (who was with him in Abyſſinia) ſaid at Cairo, that he never accompanied his maſter to any ſuch ſpot.

If therefore this inſinuation continues uncontradicted, as well as many other reports to the prejudice of our very diſtinguiſhed traveller, the publication (whenever it may take place) will not receive the entire credit, which I am perſuaded it will moſt amply deſerve.

Having therefore lately procured the means of diſproving this moſt ill-founded inſinuation of the Baron de Tott, as well as ſome other objections which have been circulated againſt the credit of Mr Bruce's much to be expected narrative, I think that it is right ſuch information ſhould be early laid before the public. I muſt at the ſame time premiſe, that though I have the honour to be known to Mr Bruce, yet our acquaintance is not of the moſt intimate kind, nor have I ſeen him for ſeveral years. He will not moreover receive the moſt diſtant intimation of what I am now publiſhing, otherwiſe the defence (if any is requiſite) would be infinitely more ſtrong and accurate.

James Bruce, Eſq; of Kinnaird, is a gentleman of conſiderable family and fortune; and in 1763 was appointed Conſul to Algiers, where he continued till 1765 *.

In June 1764, he requeſted leave of abſence from the ſecretary of ſtate for the ſouthern department, in order to make ſome drawings of antiquities near Tunis, for which Mr Bruce hath very conſiderable talents †.

In Mr Bruce's laſt letter from Algiers to the ſame ſecretary, (dated December 29th, 1764), Mr Bruce alludes to another leave of abſence, which he had likewiſe requeſted, that he might viſit parts of the African continent ‡.

How long he continued in Africa, I have not had the opportunity of procuring information; but having intentions afterwards of viſiting Palmyra, he was ſhipwrecked on the coaſt of Tunis, and

* This article is by a gentleman to whom the public is already under great obligations.

* I believe that this as well as other dates and facts which I ſhall ſtate are accurate; but as no application hath been made to Mr Bruce himſelf, it is probable there may be ſome miſtakes, though it is hoped of no great importance.

† Letter of June 4th, 1764, at preſent in the office of Lord Sydney, which his Lordſhip hath been ſo obliging as to permit me to examine.

‡ Mr Bruce explains himſelf no further in this letter; but it is believed that he proceeded conſiderably to the ſouthward of Algiers, and made thoſe very capital drawings of remains of Roman architecture, which many have ſeen upon Mr Bruce's return to England. Before he ſet out for Algiers, he informed ſome of his friends, that the making ſuch excurſions for theſe intereſting purpoſes was his principal inducement for accepting the conſulſhip.

plundered of every thing by the barbarous inhabitants.

The moſt diſtreſſing part of the loſs was probably that of his inſtruments, ſo neceſſary to a ſcientific traveller; and though he afterwards procured ſome of theſe, yet others (particularly a quadrant) could not be recovered.

Mr Bruce, however, determining to repair this loſs as ſoon as poſſible from France, ſo much nearer to him than England, was ſo fortunate as to be provided with a time-piece and quadrant from that quarter *.

Where he continued after his ſhipwreck, I have not heard with any degree of accuracy; but on the 28th of January 1768, he was at a French houſe in Aleppo, by which route he probably returned from Palmyra.

Where and when Mr Bruce received the French inſtruments is not known; but as he was ſtill bent on viſiting Abyſſinia, he gave a commiſſion to Mr W. Ruſſel, F. R. S. † for a reflecting teleſcope, made by Bird or Short; a watch with a hand to point ſeconds, and the neweſt and completeſt Engliſh Aſtronomical Tables; all of which were to be ſent to Mr Fremeaux ‡, and forwarded to him at Alexandria before Auguſt.

* Upon this occaſion Lewis XV. preſented Mr Bruce with an iron quadrant of four feet radius, as he had probably repreſented to the Academy of Sciences his want of ſuch an inſtrument whilſt he ſhould be in Abyſſinia; Mr Bruce brought back with him to England this cumbrous fellow-traveller, and, having put upon it an inſcription to the following purport, is ſaid to have preſented it to the univerſity of Glaſgow.

"With this inſtrument, given by the King of France, Lewis XV. Mr Bruce proceeded to the ſources of the Nile, it being carried on foot, upon mens ſhoulders, over the mountains of Abyſſinia." This information I received from that eminent maker of inſtruments Mr Nairne.

To conclude my account of this quadrant, it may not be improper to mention that Mr Bruce ſent it to an iſland in the lake of Dembea, when an attack was apprehended from the Geilas, (the conſtant enemies of the Abyſſinians), which ended in the plunder of Gondar. This lake is very near to Gondar.

† Letter from Dr Patrick Ruſſel at Aleppo, to Dr Alexander Ruſſel in London, kindly communicated to me by Mr W. Ruſſel, late ſecretary to the Turkey Company, and F R S.

† Letter of February 11. 1768.—received by Mr Ruſſel in London April 27.

‡ A merchant of eminence in London.

On the 29th of March 1768, Mr Bruce was at Sidon on the coaſt of Syria, and wrote to Mr Ruſſel from thence for the following additional inſtruments, viz. a twelve-feet reflecting teleſcope, to be divided into pieces of three feet, and joined with ſcrews *. This teleſcope was alſo accompanied by two thermometers and two portable barometers. Mr Bruce moreover informed Mr Ruſſel, that he was going into a country (viz. Abyſſinia) from which few travellers had returned; and wiſhed Mr Ruſſel, or his philoſophical friends, would ſend him their deſiderata, as he was entirely at their ſervice †. Mr Bruce added, that if he could not obtain admiſſion into Abyſſinia, he ſtill would do his beſt in the cauſe of ſcience on the eaſtern coaſt of the Red Sea.

As Mr Bruce had directed the inſtruments to be ready for him at Alexandria by the beginning of Auguſt 1768, it is probable that he reached Cairo about that time; from whence he proceeded to Abyſſinia, by way of Jedda ‡, Mazava ||, and Arquito §.

Whilſt Mr Bruce was at Jedda, he was met by ſome Engliſh gentlemen returning from the Eaſt Indies; amongſt whom was Mr Newland, who hath publiſhed a map of the Red Sea, and who availed himſelf of Mr Bruce's obſervations to fix the ſituation of that port **.

It is ſuppoſed that Mr Bruce did not continue long at Jedda, as he is ſaid to have explored the coaſt on the eaſt ſide as low as Mocha, during which drawings were taken of many curious fiſh in the Red Sea. Mr Bruce muſt alſo have entered Abyſſinia, either at the latter end of 1768, or the very beginning of 1769, as

* In order to make it more portable.

† Mr Ruſſel was unfortunately confined by a ſevere fit of the gout at Bath when he received this letter; and therefore could not make this kind offer from Mr Bruce to his philoſophical friends early enough to tranſmit them to Alexandria, where Mr Bruce was to be in Auguſt 1768

‡ Or Giedda, the port to Mecca and Medina.

|| A ſmall iſland on the weſt coaſt of the Red Sea, N. lat 15 the moſt ſouthern part of the Turkiſh dominions in Africa.

§ A port to the ſouth of Mazava. The neighbouring diſtrict is under the dominion of an Arabian Sheik The Portugueſe entered Abyſſinia by the ſame route

** I have this information from that diſtinguiſhed geographer Mr Dalrymple, F. R. S.

he

he made an obſervation in that part of Africa on January 15. of that year *.

In this perilous enterpriſe he was accompanied by a Greek ſervant (named *Michael*), and an Italian painter, who probably aſſiſted in the numerous articles which might deſerve repreſentation, and who died of a flux before Mr Bruce's return to Cairo in 1773.

Mr Bruce muſt at times alſo have been aſſiſted by many others, as his inſtruments, apparatus for drawings †, and other neceſſaries, from their weight and bulk could not be eaſily tranſported from place to place, and perhaps required beaſts of burden. To theſe likewiſe muſt be added ſeveral medicines, which enabled him to perform cures on the inhabitants, and probably occaſioned the good reception he afterwards met with.

I ſhall leave ſuch other particulars as happened to Mr Bruce, during his long reſidence in this unfrequented country, to his own ſuperior narrative; and ſhall therefore only ſtate, that he made a large number of obſervations ‡ to fix the ſituations of places, out of which thirty one have been examined and computed by the aſtronomer royal. The firſt of theſe obſervations was made on January 10. 1769, and the laſt on the 5th of October 1772, from 30 to 38 degrees of eaſt longitude from Greenwich, and from 12 to 28 degrees of north latitude. It need ſcarcely be ſaid, therefore, that theſe obſervations, which include ſo large an extent of almoſt unknown country, muſt prove a moſt valuable addition to geography; and the more ſo, becauſe the Portugueſe, who firſt viſited Abyſſinia, give neither longitude nor latitude of any place in that empire ‖; and Poncet only two latitudes, viz. thoſe of Sennar and Gieſum §.

As Mr Bruce made the laſt of his obſervations on the 5th of October 1772, it is probable that he might then be on his return to Cairo, through Nubia and Upper Egypt, where he arrived on the 15th of January 1773, after an abſence of more than four years; bringing back with him his Greek ſervant, named Michael.

Mr Bruce continued at Cairo four months, during which time he had daily intercourſe with Mr Antes; the ſubſtance of a letter from whom will contain the principal confutation of Baron Tott, and others, who have been incredulous with regard to Mr Bruce's expected narrative.

Mr Antes was born of German parents, who were poſſeſſed of lands in the back ſettlements of Pennſylvania; and having ſhowed early abilities as a mechanic, removed to Europe, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the art of watch-making, which he learned without apprenticeſhip, being a member of the church known by the name of *Unitas Fratrum*, and commonly called *Moravian*, he wiſhed to be employed in their miſſions, and more eſpecially that of the ſame perſuaſion eſtabliſhed at Cairo, who always have deſired to procure opportunities of inſtructing the Abyſſinians *.

Mr Bruce had left Cairo fifteen months before Mr Antes came there; and the intercourſe, therefore, between them firſt took place on Mr Bruce's return in 1773.

Having given this account of Mr Bruce and Mr Antes's being firſt known to each other, I ſhall now ſtate the ſubſtance of ſome information received from the latter, who is now eſtabliſhed at Fulneck, near Leeds, after having reſided eleven years at Cairo.

"That Mr Bruce left Cairo in 1768, and proceeded thence, by way of Jedda, Mazava, and Arquito, into Abyſſinia.

That in 1771, a Greek came from Gondar † in Abyſſinia, who had a draft

* I have this information likewiſe from Mr Dalrymple.

† Mr Bruce carried with him ſo many black lead pencils for this purpoſe, that he preſented ſeveral to Mr Antes on his return to Cairo. Who Mr Antes was, will hereafter appear.

‡ Of the eclipſes of Jupiter's ſatellites.—I am obliged to Vice Admiral Campbell for this communication.

‖ "Many of the countries in Ethiopia are diverſely placed by divers; which Alvarez, in his ſo many years travel in Ethiopia, might well have acquainted us with, had he accuſtomed himſelf by rules of art to have obſerved by inſtruments." *Purchas.*

§ Theſe two latitudes were fixed by Father Benevent, who accompanied Poncet, and died whilſt in Abyſſinia.

* Dr Hocker, who was a phyſician, and ordained miniſter of the ſame church, was ſhipwrecked not many years ſince on the Red Sea in making this attempt, and obliged to return to Cairo.—I am obliged to the Reverend Mr Latrobe for this communication, as likewiſe ſeveral others; and more particularly the letter from his brother-in law Mr John Antes, extracts from which will ſoon be ſtated.

† Generally conſidered as the capital.

from

from Mr Bruce on a French merchant at Cairo (named *Rose*) * for some hundreds of German crowns, which were paid immediately. This draft was accompanied by a letter from Mr Bruce, and was the first time that he had been heard of at Cairo since his departure in 1768.

That after Mr Bruce's return to Cairo in 1773, Mr Antes saw a young Armenian † and his father (who came likewise from Gondar) at Mr Pini's, an Italian merchant of Cairo, where they and Mr Bruce conversed in the Abyssinian language ‡, and seemed glad to meet him again.

That Mr Bruce returned to Cairo from Abyssinia by way of Nubia and Upper Egypt; which can be fully attested by the Franciscan friars who are established at Ibue near Asyuwan, which latter is the highest town of Upper Egypt.

That during Mr Bruce's stay at Cairo, which was not less than four months, no day passed without their seeing each other, which gave Mr Antes frequent opportunities of inquiring with regard to Abyssinia, concerning which he was particularly interested from a reason before stated §.

That Mr Antes likewise frequently conversed with Michael, Mr Bruce's Greek servant; who is stated to have by no means had a lively imagination, and who always agreed with the circumstances mentioned by his master, and more particularly in relation to their having visited the sources of the Nile, which the Baron Tott doubts of, from having had a conversation with this same Greek servant."

Mr Antes adds, "That Baron Tott staid but a few days at Cairo: and from his short residence in that country hath given several erroneous accounts relative to Egypt. Mr Antes, on the other hand, had almost daily conversations with Michael for several years, and often in relation to the sources of the Nile *."

Lastly, "That after Mr Bruce left Cairo, Mr Antes had conversed with others † who had known Mr Bruce in Abyssinia, and that he was there called *Maalim Jakube*, or Mr James."

After this state of facts, I conceive that no one can entertain a reasonable doubt with regard to Mr Bruce's not only having visited, but resided long in Abyssinia; though it is remarkable that the Jesuits expressed the same doubts in relation to Poncet, who had continued there nearly as long as Mr Bruce. Poncet happened to be a layman; and the Jesuits, perhaps, would not approve of any narrative that did not come from Father Benevent, who accompanied Poncet to Abyssinia, but unfortunately died there ‡.

Driven, however, from this hold, the objectors will possibly retain their incredulity as to many particulars to be related,

* It hath before been stated, that Mr Bruce established himself in a French house at Aleppo, from which must probably he obtained credit upon a house of the same nation at Cairo, and was thence supplied with a power of drawing from Abyssinia.

† His name was *Paolo*. The Armenians are the most enterprising of any inland merchants. — Their religious notions also agree with those of the Abyssinians, which is a most material point.

‡ Mr Antes does not speak the Abyssinian language himself: but was informed by Paolo, the Armenian merchant, who had long resided at Gondar, that their conversation was in that tongue.

§ Viz. his belonging to the Moravian mission at Cairo, who have always wished to visit that country.

* Mr Antes's peculiar curiosity with regard to Abyssinia hath before been accounted for.

† There is an intercourse between Cairo and Abyssinia, as the patriarch of the Copts resides at the former, from whom the Archbishop of Abyssinia receives his consecration. The Copts are said to be a branch of the Eastern church, who both circumcise and baptize. Their patriarch always assumes the name of *Mark*. The present patriarch is Mark the 107th.

‡ It must be admitted, however, that we owe to the zeal of the Jesuits the best accounts we have both of China and Paraguay. Few laymen have been actuated so strongly for the promotion of geography and science as Mr Bruce; and we must, therefore, (upon the order of Jesuits being abolished), look up chiefly to the missionaries from the church of the Unitas Fratrum, who, though differing so totally in other respects, seem to have an equal ardour with the Jesuits for instructing the inhabitants of countries unfrequented by Europeans. Such missions are already established in West Greenland, the coast of Labrador, N. lat. 56, the back settlements of Carolina and Pennsylvania, in India, Bengal, and the Nicobar Islands. Those established on the coast of Labrador send over yearly meteorological journals, which are communicated to the Royal Society. As for the dispute between Poncet and Maillet the French Consul at Cairo, see Mod. Univ. Hist. vol. 6.

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ted, which I will shortly endeavour to answer, at least in regard to two of the principal ones, which are often much dwelt upon.

The first of these is, the having visited the sources of the Nile; which, from classical education, we cannot easily believe, as they were unknown to the ancients, though they had so great curiosity with regard to this discovery *.

Many things, however, have been accomplished by travellers in modern times, which the ancients never could atchieve, and which may be attributed to their want of enterprise †, (as travellers at least), of languages ‡, and lastly, the not being able to procure credit when in a distant country. Mr Bruce could not have continued so long as he did in Abyssinia, unless he had drawn from Gondar upon a merchant established at Cairo.

The difficulty, however, with regard to reaching the sources of the Nile, arises principally from the uncivilized state of Abyssinia, unless the traveller hath a proper introduction ‖. When once this is procured, all difficulties seem to cease, as we find by Lobo's § account of this same discovery, and likewise by Poncet's narrative, who was prevented by illness from visiting the very spot, but hath given an ample relation from an Abyssinian, who had often been there. Poncet, moreover, had obtained leave from the Emperor to make this journey, which he states as not being a distant one, and that the Emperor hath a palace near the very sources.

If it be doubted, whether Mr Bruce hath visited every source of the Nile, I answer, that perhaps no Englishman hath taken this trouble with regard to the sources of the Thames, which, like most other great rivers, is probably derived from many springs and rills in different directions.

The other objection which I have often heard, is, That Mr Bruce hath mentioned in conversation, that the Abyssinians cut a slice from the living ox, esteeming it one of their greatest delicacies.

This sort of dainty indeed is not so considered in other parts of the globe; but every nation almost hath its peculiarities in the choice of their food.

Do not we eat raw oysters within a second of their being separated from the shell? And do not we roast both them and lobsters whilst alive, the barbarity of which practice seems to equal that of the Abyssinians? Do not cooks skin eels whilst alive? And do not epicures crimp fish for the gratification of their appetites?

That the Abyssinians eat beef in a raw state, is agreed by both Lobo and Poncet; and the former says, *reeking* from the beast. Mr Antes, moreover, was told by a Franciscan monk, who went with the caravan from Abyssinia to Cairo *, that he was witness of an ox being killed, and immediately devoured by the band of travellers.

One reason, perhaps, for this usage may be, the great heat of the climate, which will not permit meat to be kept a sufficient time to make it tender (as with us); and it is generally allowed, that a fowl, dressed immediately after it is killed, is in better order for eating, than if it is kept four and twenty hours.

Dr Shaw mentions, moreover, some papers of Lippi (who accompanied the French embassy into Abyssinia, A. D. 1704), which are to be found in the botanical library at Oxford.

* We cannot be surprised that the Greeks and Romans should have had this curiosity, the Nile not only overflowing during the summer, but receiving no tributary stream through so large an extent of country. The not being able to reach the source, however, argues a great want of enterprise in them, especially as both of these nations were masters of Egypt.

† Perhaps also of curiosity. How little do the Romans seem to have known of the Pyrenees or Alps, I had almost said of their own Appenines?

‡ Some of the more accomplished Romans could indeed speak Greek, but the Greeks no language except their own.

‖ The professing the knowledge of medicine was Poncet's introduction, and seems to have been that of Mr Bruce. Even in our own civilized country, how are quacks and mountebanks resorted to? And what an impression must Mr Bruce, with his magnificent and scientific apparatus, have made upon the inhabitants of such a country as Abyssinia?

§ In Father Telles's compilation. See also Ludolf, who describes the sources from Gregory, who was a native of Abyssinia. Father Payz was the first who visited them, A. D. 1622. His account of this is said to be in the archives of the College *de Propaganda Fide* at Rome. It is believed that there are many other curious particulars for the illustration of geography to be found in the same depository.

* This points out another channel, by which a traveller of enterprise may visit Abyssinia.

Is it therefore extraordinary, that an Abyssinian epicure may really find (or perhaps fancy) that a piece cut from the beast whilst alive, may be more tender, or have a better relish, than if it is previously killed by the butcher? To this I must add, that according to the information which I have received on this head, Mr Bruce's account of this practice is much misrepresented by the objectors, who suppose that the ox lives a considerable time after these pieces are cut from it. When these dainty bits, however, have been sent to the great man's table (and which are probably taken from the fleshy parts), the beast soon afterwards expires, when the first artery is cut in providing slices for the numerous attendants.

Upon the whole, the not giving credit to a traveller, because he mentions an usage which is very different from ours (and is undoubtedly very barbarous), seems rather to argue ignorance than acuteness.

This brings to my recollection the incredulity which was shown to another distinguished traveller, Dr Shaw, who having mentioned, in an Oxford common room, that some of the Algerines were fond of lion's flesh, never could obtain any credit * afterwards from his brother-fellows of the same college, though many of them were learned men.

It is well known, however, though Dr Shaw states this same circumstance in the publication of his travels, that he is cited with the greatest approbation in almost every part of Europe.

The natural cause and progress of the incredulity which a traveller generally experiences, seems to be the following:

When he returns from a distant, and little frequented, country, every one is impatient to hear his narrative, from which, of course, he selects the more striking parts †, and particularly the usages which differ most from our own. Some of the audience disbelieving what the traveller hath mentioned, put questions to him which show their distrust. The traveller by this treatment becomes irritated, and answers some of them peevishly ‡, others ironically, of which the interrogators afterwards take advantage to his prejudice.

I have been at the trouble of collecting these facts, and which I have endeavoured to enforce by such observations as occurred, from being truly desirous of seeing Mr Bruce's account of Abyssinia, who is certainly no common traveller, nor can the publication be a superficial one, as he resided there so long.

That Mr Bruce hath great talents for the information of his readers, appears by his dissertation on the Theban harp ‖, which Dr Burney hath inserted in the first volume of his History of Music, and in which Mr Bruce also mentions several of the Abyssinian instruments. Mr Bruce, moreover, is said to have a great facility in learning languages **, and talents for drawing ††; nor perhaps was any other traveller furnished with so large and scientific an apparatus of instruments. This I will add, that Mr Bruce's spirit and enterprise will not be easily equalled.

If I can therefore be the least instrumental in the earlier production of so interesting an account of an almost unfrequented part of Africa, my pains will be amply repaid.

As this is my sole view in what is here laid before the public, I am not under the obligation of making apologies to any one but Mr Bruce himself, who perhaps may not have occasion to thank me, for undertaking his defence, to which he is so much more equal in most respects.

A defence, however, from himself merely,

* Sir William Temple somewhere mentions, that a Dutch governor of Batavia, who lived much with one of the most considerable inhabitants of Java, could never obtain any credit from him after having mentioned, that in Holland water became a solid body.

† Quanto mi govera, narrate altrui
Le cose vedute, edire io fui? *Ariosto.*

The traveller who first saw a flying fish, probably told every one of this extraordinary circumstance as soon as he set his foot on shore, and was probably discredited with regard to the other particulars of his voyage.

‡ Nothing is more irritating to an ingenuous person than to find his assertions are disbelieved. This is commonly experienced in the cross examinations of almost every witness. To the distresses of the traveller on his return I may add, the being often teased by very ignorant questions.

‖ Thebes in Egypt.

** Mr Bruce is said to have spoken the Arabic when he first entered Abyssinia, but afterwards acquired the language of the country.

†† Some of the incredulous have expressed their doubts with regard to this; but ample proof could be produced, were it at all necessary.

merely, will never be a complete one with thoſe who are incredulous, becauſe it muſt depend upon aſſertions, as there is perhaps no other perſon in Europe who ever was in Abyſſinia.

If a traveller deſcribes a country frequented by others, he is liable to contradiction, and may be ſoon detected by the croſs examination of thoſe who have been equally eye witneſſes as himſelf. But where is the traveller to be found, who hath braved the dangers that muſt have ſurrounded Mr Bruce during four years reſidence in a barbarous empire?

Mr Bruce himſelf, moreover, hath not the means of refuting the groundleſs inſinuations of Baron Tott, which I have happened to procure, and which indeed have been the principal cauſe of my entering into this controverſy. *Matty's Rev.*

Liſt of Annuities which are to be added in aid of the new eſtabliſhed Sinking Fund.

Annuities on	*Principal*	*Annuities*	*Expiration.*
99 Years Exciſe,	£.582,437	49,715	Jan. 1792
2-7ths 9d ditto,	74,174	6,515	Oct. 1790
3700l. per week ditto,	456,530	31,830	Apr. 1803
Anno 1706	360,445	24,724	Do. 1805
—— 1707	124,424	8,152	Do. 1806
Firſt act, 1708,	75,368	4,918	Do. 1807
Second act, 1708	162,896	10,597	July 1807
	L. 1,836,275	136,453	
Annuit. for 30 and 29 ys.	410,017		Jan. 1808
Ditto for 10 years,	25,351		Apr. 1787
	571,821		

			Reduced by death 1796
Annuities on lives,	1745	22,500	12,383
Ditto,	1746	45,000	22,821
Ditto,	1757	33,750	25,213
Ditto,	1778	2,849	2,769
Ditto,	1779	5,318	5,174
Amount of Annuities for 2 and 3 lives, charged on 2-7ths 9d Exciſe		22,633	8,195
Annuities with the benefit of ſurvivorſhip.		540	540
		132,590	77,095
Total of temporary annuities,			571,821
Temporary and life annuities, expiring on and before 1808, to be appropriated in aid of the new eſtabliſhed Sinking Fund, Total,			648,916

PARLIAMENT. [p. 134.]

In the Houſe of Commons, Feb. 27. Mr Pitt roſe, and entered fully into the conſideration of the ſyſtem of fortification. What he had now to propoſe was, to bring to iſſue a queſtion which had long been partially inveſtigated, but, in his opinion never rightly underſtood. With a view, therefore, to ſimplify the ſubject, to clear it from the miſrepreſentations of ſome, to remove the prejudices of others, and to ſubmit it to the candid determination of the Houſe, he would move two reſolutions as a baſis on which to ground the leading principles of the debate.

"Reſolved firſt, That it appears to this Houſe, that the plan of fortifying the dock-yards of Portſmouth and Plymouth, ſo as they may be defended with the leaſt number of men, is eſſential for enabling our fleets to protect our commerce, and to act more effectually againſt our enemies."

If that was agreed to, it was his intention to follow it with another motion:

"That proviſion ſhould be made from time to time for carrying that ſyſtem into execution."

In ſupport of the firſt reſolution, he appealed to the report of the board of land and ſea officers, appointed by his Majeſty to inveſtigate the facts. He maintained the propriety and liberality of their inſtructions; the reſpectability and independence of the characters of the officers who compoſed it; and the rectitude of their determination, which, he ſaid, no human wiſdom could have exceeded. It would, therefore, reſt with every man who was to give his vote that night, whether he would truſt the ſafety of his country to contingencies, rather than adopt a plan of ſecurity, ſanctioned by the ableſt and moſt reſpectable body of military and naval officers that any nation could produce.

With reſpect to the general ſyſtem, which an Hon. Gentleman (Gen. Burgoyne) had affected to diſregard, the neglect of it had been ſeverely felt in the late war, when all enterpriſe was checked by the confinement of our fleets for home defence, inſtead of carrying their operations into the boſom of our enemies; a conduct which was new to this country, and produced a peace which ſuch a conduct made neceſſary. Other objections he proceeded to obviate with equal force and poignancy.

Laſt ſeſſion, the incompetency of the Houſe to decide was urged as a pretence for delay, and a board of enquiry recommended; a board of enquiry had been inſtituted, and their report was now before the Houſe [p. 87.]. To the general queſtion propoſed to that board, whether any ſyſtem of naval or military defence, or of both combined, would be a ſufficient defence without the aid of fortifications? the anſwer was decidedly in the negative. It was next ſubmitted to their conſideration, what ſyſtem was moſt eligible? To this, the authority which had countenanced the ſyſtem now before the Houſe would, he hoped, be a ſufficient anſwer. It had been ſaid, the ſyſtem was new to this country. To this he could boldly reply, that its excellency was the only novelty. It had been inſinuated, that the aſſent that had been obtained had reference to *data* grounded on imaginary contingencies that were barely within the line of poſſibility. But was not this the higheſt compliment that could be paid the ſyſtem, to be a ſecurity againſt every contingency that could poſſibly happen? If we would not, he ſaid, as of late, have our fleets chained to our harbours, the Houſe muſt be unanimous in their deciſion for the preſent queſtion. It is not a queſtion of minute expenditure, but goes in fact to the ſucceſs of our arms in any future war; to the advancement of our naval and military glory; to the protection of our commerce; and, in brief, to the proſperity, preſervation, and political exiſtence, of this empire.

It has been objected by two members, who had appeared *diſſentients* at the board of enquiry, (Earl Percy and Gen. Burgoyne), that a force ſufficient to man the fortifications then in contemplation, in time of war could not be ſpared; and, if it could, reſources would be wanting to carry on the works, and maintain the garriſon. Theſe objections, in his opinion, implied ſome degree of inconſiſtency in the objectors, who, having firſt agreed to the neceſſity of the propoſed ſyſtem of defence, afterwards inſiſted that no ſuch ſyſtem was practicable. However, by arguments grounded on former experience, Mr Pitt proved it was eaſy to raiſe the force; and as he prided himſelf upon nothing ſo much as to have his name enrolled on the pillar that propped the national credit and the national ſafety, the million, he thought, which was firſt beſtowed on the reduction of the national debt, could not be more advantageouſly applied, than the ſame ſum expended to render thoſe fortifications effectual, if it were poſſible they could require ſo much, and he would pledge himſelf to the Houſe to deviſe the means to ſupply both.

To the objections which had come from another Hon. Gentleman (Capt. M'Bride) he allowed a very high degree of weight to be due; but it was not to be expected that a gentleman, who had ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his memorable ſervices at ſea, ſhould pay much attention to the eſtabliſhment of ſolid and permanent defences by land; he could not, therefore, think him juſtified in aſſerting, that one of the reſolutions was made in the teeth of the opinion of all the naval officers; and he called on that gentleman, or any other, to contradict him, when he aſſerted, that none of the naval officers had denied the poſſibility of the enemy's landing in Whitſan-Bay, which was the ſubject of diſpute.

[Here Capt. M'Bride interrupted the Rt Hon. Gentleman by referring to the opinion of Adm. Barrington, as coinciding with his own. He believed, he ſaid, that gentleman would have no objection to appear at the bar of that Houſe, to deliver himſelf his opinion.]

Mr Pitt waved the matter, and proceeded, by ſuppoſing Whitſan-Bay, of ſixteen miles extent, to be defended by walls of adamant; yet, whilſt there remained any other acceſſible place within that diſtance from Plymouth, the queſtion had ſtill the ſame weight. Our buſineſs was not merely to prevent a local landing, but to render its conſequences as fatal to the enemy, and as inoffenſive to ourſelves, as poſſible; not wholly to exclude them from our ſhores, but to prevent their bringing deſtruction to our dock yards.

He had heard it urged, but chiefly out of the Houſe, that this mode of fortifying was not only new, but unconſtitutional. If it was new, he could only ſay, that a ſtatute had been made in the reign of Henry VIII. enforcing a ſyſtem of fortification; and, if unconſtitutional, the moſt patriotic Queen that ever ſat on the Engliſh throne (Queen Eliſabeth) had approved it. It had been in contemplation during the reigns of the Stuarts, who, though unfortunate, were not always

ways injudicious; and had been taken up in every reign ſince on the ſpur of the occaſion, but dropt again when the danger was over.

There was certainly, he ſaid, a determinate point beyond which our naval power could never reach. He would preſuppoſe that period arrived. If, then, the preſent reſolution ſhould paſs, would it not be happy for poſterity, that they could ſpread their fleets, thus in the zenith of their power, to the annoyance of the enemy, while at home they might triumph in their own ſecurity, and truſt to the valour of their own troops for internal defence, without being driven to the neceſſity of calling in foreign mercenaries to their aſſiſtance.

After having anſwered every objection that he had heard urged, either within doors or without, as they occurred to his mind, he concluded with obſerving, that an eſtimate for fortifications, preciſely ſimilar to the preſent, had been preſented to the Houſe during the adminiſtration of a Rt Hon. Gentleman (Mr Fox), who was now one of its moſt decided opponents. It may be reſerved, he ſaid, for that gentleman to make ſyſtems in adminiſtration, and to unmake them when in oppoſition; but he hoped the Houſe, attending to the demands of expediency, to the neceſſities which hiſtory exhibited, to the claims of our credit, and to the exigencies of our ſecurity, would advert to the probable ſituations in which we may be involved, and give a manly but diſpaſſionate opinion on the queſtion which was now ſubmitted to their deciſion.

Mr Baſtard roſe, to defend the conſiſtency of the gentlemen who had formerly reprobated the meaſure, and who ſtill continued to oppoſe it. He allowed that a board of general officers, to examine into the ſtate of the fortifications as they then ſtood, and to report to the Houſe their opinion of the works that were propoſed to be carried on, was recommended as one mode of bringing the meaſure fairly before the Houſe: but it never could have been ſuppoſed, that thoſe officers, on whoſe judgement and experience the Houſe could moſt rely, would have been excluded from that board, by the appointment of a junior officer to preſide at the head of it. After mentioning Lord Amherſt, Gen. Conway, and ſome others, as thus unjuſtly excluded, he proceeded to ſhew, that in the *data* on which they were to decide, inſtead of being directed to examine whether any ſyſtem of defence, ſingle or combined, would be equal to the purpoſes that had been ſpeciouſly held forth to the Houſe, the firſt reſolution contained a decided opinion in favour of fortifications. The members of the board had not, however, been all equally ſubmiſſive through the whole of the enquiry; ſome had agreed to *data*, becauſe propoſed in ſuch a manner as to be ſelf-evident propoſitions: others had agreed, becauſe ſtated in terms beyond their comprehenſion. He had never, for his part, heard of ſuch *data* as the groundwork of an enquiry, except in the caſe of Don Quixote de la Mancha, whoſe *data*, as ſtated, expoſed the whole proceeding to ridicule. It had been given out, that the militia and the country people would man the intended fortifications. As to the firſt, little reliance could be placed on their aſſiſtance, as their fate was yet undecided in that Houſe; and leſs upon the country people, as he well knew their averſion to the undertaking by living on the ſpot. For himſelf, he frankly declared, he was one of thoſe who could not bear to ſee Britain's enſign of glory torn from the maſt-head, and fixed on ramparts erected by caprice, and who looked forward with dread to the conſequences of ſeparating the military from the people at large, by cooping them up in garriſon, where they were too apt to conſider themſelves as a diſtinct body. He concluded, with moving an amendment, "That a ſyſtem of fortification, on grounds ſo extenſive as that propoſed by the board of enquiry, ſeems to this Houſe a meaſure totally inexpedient."

Sir William Lemon ſeconded this motion. He condemned the meaſure, as equally inexpedient and dangerous.—That period, he ſaid, may be marked as the æra of maritime decline, when it is adopted. It had been ſaid, that there was a point, beyond which the power of our navy could never reach! he would not conteſt the matter; but wiſhed that point had been attained before the preſent ſyſtem had been propoſed.

Mr Walwyn was againſt the meaſure, and had been told, that the Rt Hon. Gentleman that had brought it forward was alſo inimical to it; but *that* he could not believe, as having a higher opinion of his integrity.

Lord

Lord Hood avowed himſelf a friend to the meaſure. It had been aſked, he ſaid, why it was become more neceſſary now than formerly? The anſwer was eaſy, becauſe the marine of France had increaſed in a ratio beyond ours, and therefore demanded this precaution.

Capt. Macbride ridiculed the conduct of the Noble Duke, reſpecting the manner of enforcing conviction to his own liking on the board of naval officers at Plymouth. The Noble Duke had played off a piece of mummery there, which had diſgraced him in the eyes of the whole country. He had ſent a parcel of boys off in a boat, who were to try to effect a landing, and others on ſhore were to endeavour to repel them. They had faſtened a capſtern on ſhore, and by that means, and the help of a rope, drew themſelves up the cliff. By the ſame means, he declared he would teach a milliner's apprentice to draw a large gun, by the help of a coach and horſes, up to the croſs of St Paul's. He vindicated the conduct of himſelf and of the other ſea officers of the board. He complained that the grounds of his diſſent were not laid before the Houſe; eſpecially as he had declared, that no part of the objections he had made againſt the fortifications, or of the papers he had moved for, tended to ſhew the weakneſs, but on the contrary the ſtrength of the coaſt and country, and read extracts from his minutes of the papers he had moved for, which were to the following purport:

Lieut. Hocking's concluſion.

I beg leave to obſerve in this extent of coaſt (from Ram-head to Loo) above ſeventeen miles, the fifteen paſſes in Whitſan-bay are in a manner ſo difficult of acceſs to an enemy, not only from the great rockineſs of the ſhore, but alſo from the openings of the ſmall bays or receſſes in the coaſt leading to theſe paſſes being ſo narrow, that ſhould the wind and tide not be favourable at the time of landing, the enemy will run great riſk of being carried on the rocks. It is however certain, ſhould the enemy effect a landing at any of theſe ſand paſſes, they are undoubtedly acceſſible, and by them he may gain the ſummit of the coaſt.

But when the great irregularity of thoſe paſſes is conſidered, in their numerous windings and turnings up ſteep cliffs, it appears, an enemy will not find it ſo eaſy an operation to force them, particularly if defended by ſmall breaſt-works, and a few choſen troops at the head of each paſs. However, to render the acceſs ſtill more difficult, and throw every obſtruction poſſible in the way, ſo as to retard an enemy's attempts, it would be proper to break up thoſe footings, either by filling the paths with ſtones and earth, or ſcarping the ground, which would take off the favourable aſpect of thoſe paſſes, and render them inacceſſible.

It is remarkable, that the high ſtone and earth fences of the different fields along the coaſt, at a ſmall diſtance from the ſummit of the cliffs, and paſſes between Ram-head and Loo, form a ſtrong line of entrenchment to line the coaſt, if properly defended.

Land Officers Proviſo.

Horſe-Guards, June 18. 1785.

We have conſented to the report of Lieut. Hocking's being entered on the minutes, as it has been propoſed by ſome of the members, but we deſire not to be underſtood as acceding to it in all its parts; with reſpect to the number of places, where an enemy can land, and the proper words for this purpoſe, we rather chuſe to reſt our opinions on the report which the naval officers of this board have made on this ſubject, than on the report of Lieut. Hockings.

We the underwritten ſea officers, deſire the following note may be inſerted on the minutes, after the proviſo of the land officers.

The report of Lieut. Hockings, engineer, reſpecting Whitſan-bay and coaſt adjacent, with the plan accompanying, correſpond with the ſentiments we entertain of the difficulty of effecting a landing there, if properly oppoſed; it being no road-ſtead, and ſo much avoided by our own ſhips, we can hardly ſuppoſe the fleet of an enemy will hazard an anchorage there.

S. Barrington. *W. Hotham.*
M. Milbank. *J. Macbride.*
T. Graves. *A. S. Hammond.*

Capt. Macbride ſaid, that he had corrected groſs miſtakes in the report, of the ſhape of the country, part of which was his own eſtate. He likewiſe read the Duke of Richmond's order to Lieut. Hockings, engineer, which was given without the knowledge of the ſea officers. Capt. Macbride ſaid, it appeared to the Board, that Lieut. Hockings was clandeſtinely employed by the Duke to invalidate

invalidate the opinion of the ſea officers; when it was found to produce the contrary effect, Lieut. Hockings, who before was thought well qualified for ſuch an employment, was treated as ignorant and preſumptuous, and as a perſon unknown, until a reſpectable member of the board, on the engineer department, ſaid he had been bred up under him at Gibraltar, and gave honourable teſtimony of his character and abilities. Capt. Macbride alſo expoſed and ridiculed the conduct of the Noble Duke, who by every art and fineſſe in his power, had endeavoured to warp the naval opinions in favour of his ſyſtem. When Capt. Macbride made uſe of the reſpectable authority of Adm. Barrington, he had his authority to ſay he agreed in opinion with Capt. Macbride, and was ready to come and declare it at the bar of the Houſe of Commons. Indeed, the whole conduct of the Noble Duke, who more properly guided than preſided, was without precedent, and it was the firſt board of officers in council, where queſtion and anſwer came from the preſident, and the ſenior members. The Captain ſummed up his ſpeech, by declaring himſelf averſe to all unneceſſary fortifications.

Col. Barré began with putting his deciſive negative on the poſition, that it was either right, or wiſe, or expedient, to fortify the dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth in the manner propoſed, while the forts and harbours in every other part of the kingdom remained totally neglected. And he endeavoured to invalidate the arguments of his Rt Hon. Friend who opened the buſineſs, with much eloquence, grounded on the report of the board of enquiry. Was it to be imagined, he ſaid, that by his recommending a board of naval and land officers, men of high rank, known experience, and admitted ability, to enquire into and report the moſt proper and fit mode of defence of the kingdom, he meant a paltry, narrow, circumſcribed plan of fortifying two dock-yards? He had not the ſmalleſt idea of any ſuch deſign. The board he meant, was a board of great, reſpectable, and independent characters; men who had no votes to give, no favours to look for, no frowns to fear; men who would not have confined their enquiry to two forts, but who would have acted on a larger ſcale, and caſt their eyes around the kingdom. If Portſmouth and Plymouth were to be ſecured, Chatham and Sheerneſs, Dover and Harwich, and Yarmouth, ought not to be neglected; nor ſhould the more northerly parts of the kingdom go unguarded. It gave him no ſmall pain, he ſaid, to differ from his Rt Hon. Friend (Mr Pitt); but no perſonal attachment ſhould ever ſtand between him and his duty in doing his utmoſt to avert the diſgrace, perhaps the ruin, that awaited the remaining part of the Britiſh empire, if ſo raſh, ſo miſchievous a plan, as that in contemplation, ſhould be permitted to be carried into effect. While ſitting in his place laſt ſeſſion, and hearing the arguments that were then urged on the ſame ſubject, he roſe, and delivered his opinion; in the courſe of which, warmed and glowing with the importance of the matter in diſcuſſion, he had aſked with ſome emphaſis, "Who was the man that dared to limit the extent of the navy of England, or circumſcribe the exertions of this country in the increaſe of her marine?" That queſtion he muſt put again, becauſe the attempt was again made to do ſo preſumptuous an act; an act little ſhort of treaſon to the ſtate.

In this animated ſtyle the Colonel proceeded; and his ſubject leading him to ſpeak of the Duke of Richmond, he paid that nobleman his due tribute of praiſe, as a man of great abilities, unwearied aſſiduity, firm and reſolved in whatever he undertook, acute, logical, maſter of debate, fond of engineering, and, to do his Grace juſtice, the Colonel ſaid, no bad engineer; and, thus accompliſhed, far, very far, too much for a ſet of brave officers, uſed chiefly to out with their lower-deck tier, and make ready for action; or for gentlemen, however diſtinguiſhed in their profeſſion, accuſtomed chiefly to the diſcipline of the army. The Gen^{s} Conway and Amherſt, and Lord Townſhend, gentlemen who might have coped with his grace in the ſeveral ſciences of which he was maſter, were, by a ſtudied fineſſe, excluded from the board; and his Grace, as preſident, knew well the advantage of his ground. He deſired not to be underſtood as meaning to caſt the moſt diſtant imputation on the gentlemen who had conſtituted the board. He revered their characters, and bowed to their authority; but they muſt pardon him, if he thought it impoſſible for the moſt reſpectable naval and land officers that had ſitten at the board, to vie with his Grace in a logical conteſt. The Colonel, before he ſat down, paid Mr Pitt many compliments; and ſaid, he could

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no otherwiſe account for his having taken ſo active a part in ſo wild, ſo romantic a project, but that his conſcience had been taken by ſurpriſe. He took great offence at the Rt Hon. Gentleman's having given the late peace the cold epithet of a *neceſſary* peace. He ſaid it was a glorious peace, and the country was now experiencing the bleſſings, the wealth, and the vigour, that had flowed from the tranquillity that had been effected by it; and concluded with modeſtly decrying his own merits. He had been long *invalided*, he ſaid; moſt honourably indeed; more ſo than he deſerved.

Hon. J. Luttrell obſerved, that the fortifications were the only queſtion ſince the peace which had drawn forth the attention of that reſpectable member to the important buſineſs of Parliament. He thought his profuſe compliments to our unlimited navy but ill ſuited to grace the terms of that peace which could not be thought *glorious* by compariſon with any former peace, and, he hoped, no hiſtorian would ever be able to praiſe it by compariſon with any future peace which an enemy ſhould dictate on the aſhes of our dock-yards. He lamented that it was not proper to lay before Parliament the whole proceedings of the military board. He wiſhed the nation knew their danger. He wiſhed alſo to do juſtice to the impartial and judicious proceedings of the board.

To the firſt *datum* that was propoſed to them, the ſea officers were unanimous; but, except ſuch parts of the conſtruction of the forts as were meant to operate againſt ſhips, and to guard the entrance of the harbours, they had not at Portſmouth given any opinion; neither did he think them authoriſed, by his Majeſty's inſtructions, to give any opinion reſpecting the beſt ſyſtem of fortification by land at Plymouth. He conceived his gallant friend Capt. Macbride ſaw difficulties for an enemy to ſurmount at Whitſan-Bay, that would have been no difficulties to him in any operation on an enemy's coaſt. He took ſome pains to ſhew how eaſy it was for the French to keep us in alarm, without expence to themſelves, by having always a body of 20,000 men quartered on the oppoſite coaſt, with gun-boats and other boats ready to tranſport them: and he reminded a Rt Hon. Gentleman (Mr Fox) of the arguments he had uſed at the beginning of the ſeſſion, threatening us with formidable alliances, againſt which even fortifications would be but a weak defence. Speaking of the bad conſequences and imbecility of the American war, he concluded with obſerving, that though the ſun of Britain's glory thus ſunk in the Weſtern hemiſphere, we had the conſolation to ſee a glorious ſun ariſe in our own horizon, which, though not yet in his meridian ſplendor, had already ſhed his happy influence on this iſland, ſo as to reſtore vigour to the conſtitution, credit to the ſtate, and peace and proſperity to the whole community.

In the courſe of his ſpeech he mentioned, in high terms of panegyric, the excellence of the Noble Duke's plan, which, he ſaid, if adopted, would leave the fleets of Britain at full liberty to range the coaſts of the enemy, and to carry the Britiſh thunder to the walls of their moſt flouriſhing towns.

Mr Courtney arraigned the manner in which the board had been inſtituted, and particularly reprobated the excluſion of Lords Amherſt and Townſhend and Gen. Conway; for how could they, conſiſtent with their own dignity, and with military honour, ſerve as members of a board of land and naval officers under the Duke of Richmond?—He then mentioned with ſome degree of ridicule the partial ſyſtem of the Noble Duke, by fortifying the two dock-yards of Portſmouth and Plymouth, and leaving all the reſt of the kingdom open to the attacks of the enemy. He likened this to the ſimple uſage of the oſtrich, who, on the approach of danger, hides his head in a buſh, and leaves the reſt of his body expoſed. Much praiſe, he ſaid, had been beſtowed on his Grace of Richmond as an able engineer. As a proof of his abilities he inſtanced the fortification at South Sea Caſtle, built by the Maſter General of the Ordnance, where, he underſtood, the guns could not be fired without running back, and ſmothering the fort with ſmoke.

Lord G. Lenox roſe, to contradict that aſſertion. The Hon. Gentleman who ſpoke laſt, had a way of delivering his ſentiments which pleaſed himſelf, and, while he kept within the bounds of truth, hurt nobody; but he appealed to an Hon. General who ſat near the Hon. Gentleman, whether the aſſertion he had juſt made was true or falſe.

Gen. Burgoyne declared, that, ſo called upon, he could not, as a man of honour, decline ſaying, he had ſeen the guns

guns of that fort fired, but had not obſerved any ſuch defect.

Mr Scott declared, he had ſeen ſome guns of the fort fired, and they at that time ran back, and filled the fort with ſmoke.

Lord Mahon ſaid, that he had ever thought a ſtanding army an object of jealouſy in this country, and if it had not been proved, that this plan of the Duke of Richmond would tend to decreaſe the number of regular troops, he never would have been induced to ſupport it. He then read ſome extracts from the report of the board, where the works are recommended as requiring the ſmalleſt number of troops poſſible to man them; whereas the preſent exiſting works require a very large body of troops to defend them.

Mr Sheridan ſuppoſed, from the part taken by the Noble Lord in defence of the fortifications, that a kind of promiſe had paſſed between the two Noble perſonages, the one to ſupport the other's views whenever they came in either houſe to be debated. The Rt Hon. Gentleman Mr Pitt, who brought the preſent meaſure forward, had aſſerted, that the eſtimates of the fortifications were firſt made out during the adminiſtration in which his Rt Hon. Friend (Mr Fox) had a ſhare. This he would flatly deny. They were made out previous to that time; and, when offered, as ſtrenuouſly oppoſed by their preſent ſupporters as they are now zealouſly maintained. Lord J. Cavendiſh, who was then Chancellor of the Exchequer, at that time agreed to appropriate one part of the eſtimates to the purchaſe of Sir Gregory Page's houſe, and to reſerve the remainder for other purpoſes; and this was the foundation on which this ſide of the Houſe was charged with recanting their opinions by a Rt Hon. Gentleman ſingularly remarkable for the moſt abſurd plans, and the moſt ungracious recantations.

[Here Mr Sheridan, in a moſt animated ſtyle, recited the charges, emendations, ſhiftings, and re ſhiftings of the Rt Hon Gentleman, in his American intercourſe bill, in his India bill, and in his propoſitions to Ireland, in which laſt there did not remain the leaſt feature of his firſt opinion.]

From ſuch a man as this the charge of recantation muſt come, he ſaid, with a very ill grace. This ſun of our horizon, whoſe beams were to cheriſh the ſeed and ſtamina of our conſtitution, whether he had been taken by ſurpriſe, or had capitulated after a regular attack, he could not tell; but he certainly had proved a more ſincere friend to this deteſted and unpopular ſyſtem than he was generally ſuſpected to be. On great national occaſions, like the preſent, delicacy ſhould be laid aſide, and ruinous and unconſtitutional meaſures expreſſed in their proper terms; but, whatever language he might be led to uſe, he requeſted not to be underſtood as meaning the ſmalleſt offence to the Noble Duke who was ſo much the ſubject of the preſent day. He would not ſuſpect him, he ſaid, nor indeed any other member, of deſignedly producing or abetting a meaſure injurious to the liberties of his country; but, were he diſpoſed to place his character in the moſt unfavourable light, he would copy no other authority than that of the preſent Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, on ſome former occaſions, did not heſitate to repreſent his projects as wild, chimerical, extravagant, and abſurd.

Mr Sheridan, having in the moſt pointed language that had at any time during the ſeſſion attracted the attention of the Houſe, addreſſed the miniſter next, adverted to what had fallen from a Rt Hon. Gentleman (Col. Barré), and what he little expected to hear from him. He meant, he ſaid, the panegyric beſtowed on the late peace; a panegyric, however it has happened, ſo contradictory to the Rt Hon. Gentleman's former ſentiments, that he could not help reciting his very words, "that ſooner than ſtoop to ſuch degrading terms, the war ſhould ſtill be proſecuted, and if we did not find our glory in the attempt, we ſhould find our graves." Having ſaid this, he returned to the queſtion. He diſcuſſed the *data* one by one, and, with infinite ingenuity, refuted every argument of weight, and threw every frivolous poſtulate into ridicule. He owned that the land-officers approved the ſyſtem in general, but always took the *data* with them, juſt as a troop of ſoldiers once dragged a Middleſex juſtice, refuſing to move a ſtep without him; but inſiſted that the naval officers had given it no countenance.

Mr Marſham reprobated the ſyſtem, and, in reply to that part of the miniſter's ſpeech in which the reign of Queen Eliſabeth was referred to, read as part of his ſpeech an extract of a letter from Sir Nicholas Throgmorton to Secretary Burleigh

Burleigh on the ſubject, in which the naval defence of this kingdom was ſtrongly recommended in preference to fortreſſes.

Lord Mulgrave, Mr Fox, Meſſ. Dundas Wyndham, Wilberforce, &c. ſpoke. At length Mr Pitt roſe again, and apologized for deſiring to be heard at that late hour. He then ran over with aſtoniſhing rapidity the ſeveral heads of objections that had been urged. He inſiſted that the ſyſtem was a naval ſyſtem, and that, if adopted, fewer land forces would be neceſſary. He dwelt on Mr Sheridan's ſpeech, to efface, if poſſible, the impreſſion it had made upon the Houſe. He met the ſuggeſtions of Mr Walwyn and Mr Sheridan, that his heart was not with the buſineſs, with a degree of indignation that marked his innocence; but ſeemed greatly hurt at what fell from a Right Honourable [Col. Barré] (whoſe infirmities he was ſorry to obſerve, had obliged him to withdraw) which looked like an inſinuation darkly wrapped up indeed under the words, "that his conſcience had been ſurpriſed," and ſeemed to be directed to the ſame end. To all this he had only to ſay, that he conſidered both the one and the other, if the meaning he had aſſumed really belonged to them, as founded in the blackeſt malignity, and as highly injurious to his character. He concluded with a kind of ill-boding preſage, that if the preſent, or ſome ſuch plan, was not ſpeedily adopted, the Houſe and the nation would have to lament, that they had rejected a meaſure on which the preſervation of their liberties, and of the conſtitution itſelf, depended.

The gallery was then cleared, about ſeven in the morning, and the Houſe divided on the amendment:

Ayes 169. Noes 169.

The numbers being thus equal, it reſted with the Speaker to give the caſting voice: who, being much fatigued, declined aſſigning his reaſons, and contented himſelf with barely giving his negative to the original motion. As Mr Pitt did not wiſh it to be entered on the journals, he moved the order of the day, to get rid of it.

Mr Baſtard ſaid, he would not preſs it, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would pledge himſelf not to revive the ſyſtem that had been juſt reprobated by the Houſe.

Mr Pitt replied, that the Houſe having clearly expreſſed its opinion on the ſubject, their opinion ſhould be a law to him.

To the PEOPLE *of* SCOTLAND.

THE dangerous and pernicious meaſure of infringing (without our conſent) the articles of the Union, by diminiſhing the number of the Lords of Seſſion, being now defeated, we have had an animating proof how much a ſteady ſpirit of reſiſtance to *wrong* will avail; let us go a little farther, and try what an earneſt application for *right* will produce.

An *augmentation of the ſalaries* of our Judges is ſtill in view, and I have declared myſelf ſatisfied that their dignity requires it; but ſurely it is *proper*, it is *fair*, that the *people*, by whom that augmentation muſt be paid, ſhould at the ſame time obtain the advantage of having cauſes decided more expeditiouſly, and at leſs expence, by the reſtoration of our ancient mode of TRIAL by JURY in civil queſtions. I can now ſpeak to you with more earneſtneſs upon it, having had more opportunities of being convinced of its excellence, by attending upon my profeſſion of the law in a wider ſphere, in a country which enjoys that privilege. I will venture to ſay, that, in the courſe of the preſent Lent Aſſizes, I have witneſſed the complete determination of as much buſineſs as would have laſted for years in the Court of Seſſion, notwithſtanding all the abilities and aſſiduity of the Judges; and ſurely *truth* is better diſcovered from the *appearance* of witneſſes, than from their *words only*, through the medium of a commiſſion.

What I would humbly recommend, then, is, that in your counties and boroughs, you ſhould *inſtantly* apply to parliament by *petition*, praying that a trial, in civil queſtions, by jury, ſhould be granted to Scotland, upon which condition alone you are willing to ſubmit to heavier burdens, in order to augment the ſalaries of the judges.

Petitions, I can aſſure you, are the only means by which you can be effectually heard; and I truſt you will not loſe this opportunity of obtaining, or rather recovering, an ineſtimable privilege; for, depend upon it, the benefit of the *people* is ſeldom ſo ſure of attention, as when it is coupled with ſome favourite object of men in power.

I remain, your very faithful, humble ſervant,

JAMES BOSWELL.

Lancaſter, April 6. Eſq.

Essay *on the* Rise *and* Progress *of* CHEMISTRY.

(From Dr Watſon's Chemical Eſſays.)

[See vol. 45. p. 200.]

THE beginnings of every art which tended either to ſupply the neceſſities, or to alleviate the more preſſing inconveniencies of human life, were probably coeval with the firſt eſtabliſhment of civil ſocieties, and preceded by many ages the invention of letters, of hieroglyphics, and of every other mode of tranſmitting to poſterity the memory of paſt tranſactions. In vain ſhould we enquire who invented the firſt plough, baked the firſt bread, ſhaped the firſt pot, wove the firſt garment, or hollowed out the firſt canoe. Whether men were originally left, as they are at preſent, to pick up caſual information concerning the properties of bodies, and to inveſtigate by the ſtrength of natural genius the various relations of the objects ſurrounding them; or were, in the very infancy of the world, ſupernaturally aſſiſted in the diſcovery of matters eſſential, as it ſhould ſeem, to their exiſtence and well-being, muſt ever remain unknown to us.

There can be little doubt that in the ſpace of, at leaſt, 1656 years, from the creation of the world to the deluge, a great variety of œconomical arts muſt have been carried to a very conſiderable degree of perfection. The knowledge of many of theſe periſhed, in all likelihood, with the then inhabitants of the earth; it being ſcarcely poſſible for that ſingle family which eſcaped the general ruin to have either practiſed, or been even ſuperficially acquainted with them all. When men have been long united in civil ſocieties, and human nature has been exalted by a reciprocal communication of knowledge, it does not often happen, that any uſeful invention is entirely loſt: but were all the preſent inhabitants of the earth, except eight perſons, to be deſtroyed by one ſudden calamity, who ſees not that moſt of thoſe ſerviceable and elegant arts, which at preſent conſtitute the employment, and contribute to the happineſs of the greateſt part of the human race, would probably be buried in long oblivion? Many centuries might ſlip away before the new inhabitants of the globe would again become acquainted with the nature of the compaſs, with the arts of painting, printing, or dying, of making porcelain, gunpowder, ſteel, or braſs.

The interval of time which elapſed from the beginning of the world to the firſt deluge, is reckoned by profane hiſtorians to be wholly uncertain as to the events which happened in it: it was antecedent, by many centuries, not only to the æra when they ſuppoſed hiſtory to commence, but to the moſt diſtant ages of heroiſm and fable. The only account relative to it, which we can rely on, is contained in the firſt ſix chapters of the book of Geneſis; three of which being employed in the hiſtory of the creation, and of the fall of man; and a fourth containing nothing but a genealogical narration of the Patriarchs from Adam to Noah; it cannot reaſonably be expected, that the other two ſhould enable us to trace the various ſteps by which the human intellect advanced in the cultivation of arts and ſciences, or to aſcertain, with much preciſion, the time when any of them was firſt introduced into the world. It was ſomewhat remarkable, that from this account, ſhort as it is, the chemiſts ſhould be authoriſed, with ſome propriety, to exalt the antiquity of their art to the earlieſt times. Tubal-Cain is there mentioned as an inſtructor of every artificer in copper and iron *. This circumſtance proves beyond diſpute, that one part of metallurgic chemiſtry was well known at that time; for copper and iron are, of all the metals, moſt difficult to be extracted from their ores, and cannot, even in our days, be rendered malleable without much ſkill or trouble; and it proves alſo, that the arts in general were in an improved ſtate amongſt the antediluvians. It is ſaid, indeed, that ſome tribes of Hottentots (who can have no pretenſions to be ranked amongſt the cultivators of the arts) know how to melt both iron and copper †; but this knowledge of theirs, if they have not derived it from an intercourſe with the Europeans, is a very extraordinary circumſtance, ſince the melting and manufacturing of metals are juſtly conſidered, in general, as indications of a more advanced ſtate of civiliization than the Hottentots have yet arrived at. But not to dwell upon this; Cain we know built a city, and ſome would thence infer, that metals were in uſe before the time of Tubal-Cain, and that he is celebrated principally for his ingenuity in fabricating them for domeſtic purpoſes. Hiſtory

* Gen. iv. 22. † Forſter's Voyage vol. i. p. 81

seems to support our pretensions thus far. As to the opinion of those who, too zealously contending for the dignity of chemistry, make the discovery of its mysteries to have been the *pretium amoris* which angels paid to the fair daughters of men, we in this age are more disposed to apologise for it than to adopt it. We may say of arts what Livy the Roman historian has said of states—*datur hæc venia antiquitati, ut, miscendo humana divinis, primordia* artium *augustiora faciat.*

For many ages after the flood we have no certain accounts of the state of chemistry. The art of making wine indeed was known, if not before, soon after the deluge: this may be collected from the intoxication of Noah *, there being no inebriating quality in the unfermented juice of the grape. The Egyptians were skilled in the manufacturing of metals, in medicinal chemistry, and in the art of embalming dead bodies, long before the time of Moses, as appears from the mention made of Joseph's cup †, and from the physicians being ordered to embalm the body of Jacob. ‡ They practised also the arts of dying and of making coloured glass at a very early period, as has been gathered not only from the testimony of Strabo, but from the relics found with their mummies, and from the glass beads with which their mummies are sometimes studded. But we cannot from these instances conclude that chemistry was then cultivated as a separate branch of science, or distinguished in its application, from a variety of other arts which must have been exercised for the support and convenience of human life. All of these had probably some dependence on chemical principles, but they were then, as they are at present, practised by the several artists without their having any theoretical knowledge of their respective employments. Nor can we pay much attention in this inquiry to the obscure accounts which are given of the two great Egyptian philosophers, Hermes the elder, supposed to be the same with Mizraim, grandson of Noah; and Hermes, surnamed Trismegistus the younger, from whom chemistry has by some been affectedly called the Hermetic art.

The chemical skill of Moses displayed in his burning, reducing to an impalpable powder, and rendering potable the golden calf in the wilderness, has been generally extolled by writers on this subject; and constantly adduced as a proof of the then flourishing state of chemistry amongst the Egyptians, in whose learning he is said to have been well versed. If Moses had really reduced the gold of which the calf consisted, into ashes, by calcining it in the fire, or made it in any other way soluble in water, this instance would have been greatly in point; but neither in Exodus nor in Deuteronomy, where the fact is mentioned, is there any thing said of its being dissolved in water. The enemies of revelation, on the other hand, conceiving it to be possible to calcine gold, or to render it potable, have produced this account as containing a proof of the want of veracity in the sacred historian. Both sides seem to be in an error: Stahl and other chemists have shewn, that it is possible to make gold potable; but we have no reason to conclude that Moses either used the process of Stahl, or any other chemical means, for effecting the purpose intended—*he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strewed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel to drink of it* *. Here is not the least intimation given of the gold having been dissolved, chemically speaking, in water; it was stamped and ground; or, as the Arabic and Syriac versions have it, filed into a fine dust, and thrown into the river of which the Children of Israel used to drink: part of the gold would remain, notwithstanding its greater specific gravity, suspended for a time, (as happens in the washing of copper and lead ores) and might be swallowed in drinking the water; the rest would sink to the bottom, or be carried away by the flux of the stream.

Nevertheless, though nothing satisfactory can be concluded concerning the Egyptian chemistry from what is said of Moses in this instance, yet the structure of the ark, and the fashion of Aaron's garments, clearly indicate to us that the arts of manufacturing metals, of dying leather red, and linen blue, purple, and scarlet; of distinguishing precious stones, and engraving upon them, were at that time practised in a very eminent degree †. The Israelites had unquestionably learned these arts in Egypt, and there is great reason to suppose, not only that learning of every kind first flourished in Egypt,

* Gen. ix. 21. † Gen. xliv. 2.
‡ Gen. l. 2.

* Exod. xxxii. 20. † Exod. xxvi. and xxviii.

but

but that chemiſtry, in particular, was much cultivated in that country when other ſciences had paſſed into other parts of the world. Pliny, in ſpeaking of the four periods of learning which had preceded the times in which he lived, reckons the Egyptian the firſt: and Suidas, who is thought to have lived in the tenth century, informs us, that the Emperor Diocletian ordered all the books of chemiſtry to be burned, leſt the Egyptians, learning from them the art of preparing gold and ſilver, ſhould thence derive reſources to oppoſe the Romans *. It is worthy of notice, that Suidas uſes the word chemiſtry in a very reſtricted ſenſe, when he interpretes it by—the preparation of gold and ſilver;—but all the chemiſts in the time of Suidas, and for many ages before and after him, were alchemiſts. The edict of Diocletian in the third century had little effect in repreſſing the ardour for this ſtudy in any part of the world, ſince we are told that not leſs than 5000 books, to ſay nothing of manuſcripts, have been publiſhed upon the ſubject of alchemy ſince his time †.

At what particular period this branch of chemiſtry, reſpecting the tranſmutation of the baſer metals into gold, began to be diſtinguiſhed by the name of alchemy, cannot be determined. An author of the fourth century, in an aſtrological work, ſpeaks of the ſcience of alchemy as well underſtood at that time; and this is ſaid to be the firſt place in which the word alchemy is uſed. But Voſſius aſſerts, that we ought, in the place here referred to, inſtead of *alchemia* to read *chemia*. Be this as it may, we can have no doubt of *alchemia* being compounded of the Arabic *al* (the) and *chemia*, to denote excellence and ſuperiority, as in al-manack, al-koran, and other words. Whether the Greeks invented, or received from the Egyptians the doctrine concerning the tranſmutation of metals, or whether the Arabians were the firſt who profeſſed it, is uncertain. To change iron, lead, tin, copper, quickſilver, into gold, ſeems to be a problem more likely to animate mankind to attempt its ſolution, than either that of ſquaring the circle, or of finding out a perpetual motion; and as it has never yet been proved, perhaps never can be proved, to be an *impoſſible problem*, it ought not to be eſteemed a matter of wonder, that the firſt chemical books we meet with, are almoſt entirely employed in alchemical inquiries.

Chemiſtry, with the reſt of the ſciences, being baniſhed from the other parts of the world, took refuge among the Arabians. Geber in the ſeventh, or as ſome will have it in the eighth, and others in the ninth century, wrote ſeveral chemical, or rather alchemical, books in the Arabic. In theſe works of Geber are contained ſuch uſeful directions concerning the manner of conducting diſtillation, calcination, ſublimation, and other chemical operations, and ſuch pertinent obſervations reſpecting various minerals, as juſtly ſeem to entitle him to the character, which ſome have given him, of being the father of chemiſtry; though, in one of the moſt celebrated of his works, he modeſtly acknowledges himſelf to have done little elſe than abridge the doctrines of the ancients concerning the tranſmutation of metals. Whether he was preceded by Meſue and Rhazes, or followed by them, is not in the preſent enquiry a matter of much importance to determine, ſince the forementioned phyſicians, as well as Avicenna, who, from all accounts, was poſterior to Geber, ſpeak of many chemical preparations, and thus thoroughly eſtabliſh the opinion, that medical chemiſtry, as well as alchemy, was in thoſe dark ages well underſtood by the Arabians.

Towards the beginning of the thirteenth century, Albert the Great in Germany, and Roger Bacon in England, began to cultivate chemiſtry with ſucceſs, excited thereto, probably, by the peruſal of ſome Arabic books, which about that time were tranſlated into Latin. Theſe two monks, eſpecially the latter, ſeem to have as far exceeded the common ſtandard of learning in the age in which they lived, as any philoſophers who have appeared in any country either before their time or ſince. They were ſucceeded in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, by a great many eminent men, both of our own country and foreigners, who, in applying themſelves to alchemy, made incidentally, many uſeful diſcoveries in various parts of chemiſtry. Such were Arnoldus de Villa Nova in France; our countryman George Ripley; Raymond Lully of Majorca, who firſt introduced, or at leaſt more largely explained, the notion of an univerſal medicine; and Baſile Valentine, whoſe excellent book, intitled, *Currus Antimonii triumphalis*, has contributed more than any thing elſe to the

* Lexicon, Vox Χημεια. † Chem. Waller, p. 40.

the introduction of that uſeful mineral into the regular practice of moſt phyſicians in Europe: it has given occaſion alſo to a variety of beneficial, as well as (a circumſtance which might be expected, when ſo tickliſh a mineral fell into the hands of intereſted empirics) to many pernicious *noſtrums*. To this, rather than to the arrogant ſeverity with which Baſile Valentine treats the phyſicians his cotemporaries, may we attribute the cenſure of Boerhaave, who, in ſpeaking of him, ſays, "he erred chiefly in this, that he commended every antimonial preparation, than which nothing can be more fooliſh, fallacious, and dangerous; but this fatal error has infected every medical ſchool from that time to this."

The attempting to make gold or ſilver by alchemical proceſſes had been prohibited by a conſtitution of Pope John XXII. who was elevated to the pontificate in the year 1316; and, within about one hundred and twenty years from the death of Friar Bacon, the nobility and gentry of England had become ſo infatuated with the notions of alchemy, and waſted ſo much of their ſubſtance in ſearch of the philoſopher's ſtone, as to render the interpoſition of government neceſſary to reſtrain their folly. The following act of parliament, which Lord Coke calls the the ſhorteſt he ever met with, was paſſed 5 Hen. IV. "None from henceforth ſhall ſue to multiply gold or ſilver, or uſe the craft of multiplication; and if any the ſame do, he ſhall incur the pain of felony." It has been ſuggeſted, that the reaſon of paſſing this act was not an apprehenſion leſt men ſhould ruin their fortunes by endeavouring to make gold, but a jealouſy leſt government ſhould be above aſking aid of the ſubject. "After Raymond Lully and Sir George Ripley had ſo largely multiplied gold, the Lords and Commons, conceiving ſome danger that the Regency, having ſuch immenſe treaſure at command, would be above aſking aid of the ſubject, and might become too arbitrary and tyrannical, made an act againſt multiplying gold and ſilver *." This act, whatever might be the occaſion of paſſing it, though it gave ſome obſtruction to the public exerciſe of alchemy, yet it did not cure the diſpoſition for it in individuals, nor remove the general credulity; for, in the 35 Hen. VI. letters patent were granted to ſeveral people, by which they were permitted to inveſtigate an univerſal medicine, and to perform the tranſmutation of metals into real gold and ſilver, with a non-obſtante of the fore-mentioned ſtatute, which remained in full force till the year 1689, when, being conceived to operate to the diſcouragement of the melting and refining of metals, it was formally repealed †.

[*To be continued.*]

* Opera Mineralia explicata, p. 10.

† Mr Boyle is ſaid by his intereſt to have procured the repeal of this ſingular ſtatute, and to have been probably induced thereto, in conſequence of his having been perſuaded of the poſſibility of the tranſmutation of metals into gold. See his life prefixed to the folio edit. of his works, p. 83.

HYMEN; *or, the Portrait that was the better for keeping.*

[From Pratt's Miſcellanies.]

HYmen! (ſays the reader, yawning over the title of this tale), how often are we to be peſtered with theſe nonſenſical love ſtories? — Surfeiting! — To ſay truth, it is, at this time, ſufficiently difficult to give a thread bare ſubject any gloſs. Readers, who hold things ſacred in ridicule, would chuſe to ſee a burleſque deſcription, while the ſerious would curſe the unhallowed pleaſantry, and find no reaſon to laugh at the expence of engagements the moſt ſolid. Yet, ſhould I profoundly moraliſe, thoſe who deſign to marry would complain, that I deſired to terrify them from entering into the moſt charming of all human alliances.——Surrounded thus on all hands by critics, what ſtyle, or what ſentiment ſhall I adopt?—Why, I will make it at leaſt as entertaining as poſſible; and I will involve my moral in a fable.

A certain painter, at the requeſt of a young gentleman on the point of marriage, drew a portrait of Hymen. "I beg (ſaid this empaſſioned youth) that your picture may diſplay all the elegance of the graces.—The figure of Hymen, that Heaven-favoured deity, ought to be far more beautiful than that of Adonis.—In his hand ſhould be a torch, more brilliant even than that of love itſelf.—Summon up, therefore, all the powers of fancy to your aid, and your reward ſhall be in proportion to the manner in which you finiſh."—The painter, who knew

the

the liberality of the gentleman, ſet ardently to work, and threw out the whole fervour of his genius in the execution of this much-expected piece; which, by way of compliment, he took care ſhould be carried home the evening before the marriage.—Our young Oroondates, *then* ſporting in the fulleſt vigour of love-ſick enthuſiaſm, was by no means ſatisfied with the performance. "Friend, (ſaid he coldly to the painter), this picture of yours is rather pretty, but it wants a certain air of gaiety: it is deſtitute of thoſe peculiar delicacies—thoſe touching points which belong to the ſubject: in ſhort, though this may be *your* idea of Hymen, Heaven knows it is by no means *mine*.—You have very indifferently finiſhed this buſineſs, and, according to the agreement, you will be but indifferently rewarded."—The painter, however, who was not more celebrated for the genius of his pencil than for his knowledge of men, did not take offence, but concluded in a moment on the conduct he ſhould purſue. "Sir, (ſaid he), my picture is, in fact, not yet dry; the colours have not yet had time to ſhew themſelves; and to ſpeak freely, this is a kind of picture that for ſome time will not pleaſe, or appear to have truth in the drawing.—But in the courſe of a few months, I will take the liberty of bringing it again, and then you ſhall pay me according to the light in which you ſee it, and according to your opinion of its merit.—I am poſitive it will appear quite in another point of view.—Adieu, Sir;—I am not preſſed for money—it ſhall be left to our next interview." The painter went away with his work, and the next day the young gentleman was married.—Some months were ſuffered to elapſe before the painter re-appeared; but at the end of theſe, hearing that ſome of thoſe little matrimonial altercations which blend light and ſhade in the conjugal picture, had paſſed in pretty quick rebound, he ſeized on it as the exact criſis of carrying home his portrait. At the time of his entering the apartment of the late lover, he found the now huſband lolling in all the laſſitude of married indifference upon a ſopha.—"Are you there, Mr Painter? (ſaid he, without changing his poſture), bring your work this way, if you pleaſe.—Heavens! (continued he, looking at it), why, what an alteration!—Can this poſſibly be the ſame portrait!—You have indeed kept your promiſe, and the prophecy is fulfilled:—time has, I ſee, rendered every feature exact and natural.—How wonderful is the effect of ſix months on the colouring!—But pray now, is not the countenance a little too vivacious?—Have not the eyes too much brightneſs?—Are not the cheeks too delicately roſeate? and the whole piece is too ſplendidly animated."—"As your pencil was, before marriage, too ſombrous, it is now too ſpirited.—Why, Sir, you have dipped it in the freſheſt tints of the rainbow.—Gods! what a glory beams from the torch!—It ſeems to burn your canvas; but ſurely the flame of Hymen ought to burn conſiderably more dull than that of Love!—Beſides, the attitude, methinks, is too unembarraſſed—too chearful, and too full of joy—of that joy emanating from a ſoul in bliſs; and you have given it an air of playfulneſs, which, in my opinion, does not characteriſe that ſober, ſolid, ſleeping deity: in fact, it very little reſembles Hymen ſtill; I know it, alas! by experience, to be a flattered likeneſs." "Sir, (ſaid the painter), at preſent Hymen is leſs beautiful in your eyes than in my picture; and ſix months ago, I recollect my picture was, in your eyes, leſs beautiful than Hymen.—Believe me, the painting has not changed:—it is your idea; and the reaſon is obvious—you was then a lover, now you are a huſband."

"I underſtand you, (interrupted the huſband), ſay no more—Your picture is more agreeable than my fancy—it is but juſt that the payment ſhould be in proportion. As your fancy hath been richer than mine, ſo ſhall my recompence be richer than your fancy—here is a purſe which contains double the ſum you expected.—Take it, Sir, and give me the picture in exchange."—"No, Sir, (replied the painter); no—I muſt not leave the picture with you; but, if you pleaſe, I will paint another which ſhall ſatisfy both lovers and huſbands, and that other ſhall be the *chef d'œuvre* of my art."—Accordingly he produced in a little time a freſh picture, wherein, with uncommon ſkill, he had ſo diſpoſed the rules of optic and perſpective, that the portrait of Hymen appeared enchanting to thoſe who viewed it at a diſtance, but became familiar and fainter in the colouring as it was approached. It was hung up at the end of a gallery in a kind of alcove; and in order to ſhew which in a proper view to the paſſenger, it was neceſſary to go

over

over ſome ſlippery boards. While the ſtranger's foot was ſliding along theſe, he was entertained by ſeeing the picture in the moſt charming light; but the moment he had got beyond, upon a rougher floor, every tint deadened on his eye; and that which appeared before the work of a maſter, looked now little better than a daubing.

Some Account of GOLD *and* SILVER FISHES.

SIR,

WHEN I happen to viſit a family where *gold* and *ſilver fiſhes* are kept in a glaſs-bowl, I am always pleaſed with the occurrence, becauſe it offers me an opportunity of obſerving the actions and propenſities of thoſe beings with whom we can be little acquainted in their natural ſtate. Not long ſince I ſpent a fortnight at the houſe of a friend where there was ſuch a *vivary*, to which I paid no ſmall attention, taking every occaſion to remark what paſſed within its narrow limits. It was here that I firſt obſerved the manner in which fiſhes die. As ſoon as the creature ſickens, the head ſinks lower and lower, and it ſtands as it were on its head; till getting weaker, and loſing all poiſe, the tail turns over, and at laſt it floats on the ſurface of the water with its belly uppermoſt. The reaſon why fiſhes, when dead, ſwim in that manner is very obvious: becauſe, when the body is no longer balanced by the fins of the belly, the broad muſcular back preponderates by its own gravity, and turns the belly uppermoſt, as lighter from its being a cavity, and becauſe it contains the ſwimming-bladders, which contribute to render it buoyant. Some that delight in *gold* and *ſilver fiſhes* have adopted a notion, that they need no aliment. True it is, that they will ſubſiſt for a long time without any apparent food but what they can collect from pure water frequently changed: yet they muſt draw ſome ſupport from animalcula, and other nouriſhment ſupplied by the water; becauſe, though they ſeem to eat nothing, yet the conſequences of eating often drop from them. That they are beſt pleaſed with ſuch jejune diet may eaſily be confuted; ſince, if you toſs them crumbs, they will ſeize them with great readineſs, not to ſay greedineſs: however, bread ſhould be given ſparingly, leſt, turning ſour, it corrupt the water. They will alſo feed on the water-plant called *lemna*, *ducks-meat*, and alſo on ſmall fry. When they want to move a little, they gently protrude themſelves with their *pinnæ pectorales*: but it is with their ſtrong muſcular tails only that they, and all fiſhes, ſhoot along with ſuch inconceivable rapidity. It has been ſaid, that the eyes of fiſhes are immoveable: but theſe apparently turn them forward or backward in their ſockets, as their occaſions require. They take little notice of a lighted candle, though applied cloſe to their heads, but flounce and ſeem much frightened by a ſudden ſtroke of the hand againſt the ſupport whereon the bowl is hung; eſpecially when they have been motionleſs, and are perhaps aſleep. As fiſhes have no eye-lids, it is not eaſy to diſcern when they are ſleeping or not, becauſe their eyes are always open.

Nothing can be more amuſing than a glaſs bowl containing ſuch fiſhes: the double refractions of the glaſs and water repreſent them, when moving, in a ſhifting and changeable variety of dimenſions, ſhades, and colours; while the two mediums, aſſiſted by the concavo-convex ſhape of the veſſel, magnify, and diſtort them vaſtly; not to mention that the introduction of another element and its inhabitants into our parlours engages the fancy in a very agreeable manner.

Gold and *ſilver fiſhes*, though originally natives of China and Japan, yet are become ſo well reconciled to our climate as to thrive and multiply very faſt in our ponds and ſtews. Linnæus ranks this ſpecious of fiſh under the genus of *cyprinus*, or *carp*, and calls it *cyprinus auratus*.

Some people exhibit this ſort of fiſh in a very fanciful way; for they cauſe a glaſs bowl to be blown with a large hollow ſpace within, that does not communicate with it. In this cavity they put a bird occaſionally; ſo that you may ſee a goldfinch or a linnet hopping as it were in the midſt of the water, and the fiſhes ſwimming in a circle round it. The ſimple exhibition of the fiſhes is agreeable and pleaſant; but in ſo complicated a way becomes whimſical and unnatural, and liable to the objection due to him,

"Qui variare cupit rem prodigialiter unam."

Yours, &c. V.

Some

Some Account of Dr WIGHT, *late Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of Glaſgow.*

SIR, *Dumfries-ſhire, March* 15.

DURING a ſtay of a few days I lately made at Glaſgow, I viſited ſome objects of curioſity that I had formerly neglected; amongſt which were the repoſitories of the dead. In the college church-yard, I found the following epitaph, inſcribed on a plain marble. As I was early acquainted with Dr Wight, and retain the warmeſt affection for his memory, I hope I ſhall be forgiven for attempting a ſhort ſketch of his life and character. Such of your readers as knew him beſt, will think that I have hardly done him juſtice; and ſuch as knew him leaſt, will own, that he better deſerves a page in the biography of his country, than many who have found places there.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.

T. H.

M. S.
Gulielmi Wight, S.S.T.P.
In Academia Glaſguenſi,
Primum
Hiſtoriæ Utriuſque
Divinæ Poſtea Scientiæ
Doctoris Probatiſſimi,
Qui
Splendidis Ingenii Dotibus,
Benigna Morum Comitate
Bonorum Omnium Benevolentiam
Sibi Vivus Conciliavit
Summum Sui Deſiderium Extinctus Reliquit.
Diem Obiit IV. Cal. Sextilis A. D. MDCCLXXXII.
Ætatis LI
Pietas Sororis A. W.
M. F. C.

Dr William Wight, late profeſſor of divinity in the univerſity of Glaſgow, was born at the village of Brampton * in Cumberland, on the 31ſt day of December 1731; his father, Mr Robert Wight, being at that time diſſenting miniſter in that town, though he was from Scotland, as well as his mother Jean Robiſon, who was the daughter of a very reſpectable clergyman, Mr Alexander Robiſon miniſter of Tinwald near Dumfries; to which town Mr Wight was called to be a miniſter two or three years after the birth of his ſon.

Young Mr Wight was educated at the grammar-ſchool of Dumfries, when Mr Trotter, a perſon eminent in his time, was maſter of that ſchool.

From Dumfries he came to the Univerſity of Edinburgh at the uſual age; where it was ſoon diſcovered, to the ſurpriſe of thoſe who are doubtful of the *Genie Precoce*, that our young gentleman had capacity for every branch of literature, as he became equally an adept in logics, mathematics, and moral philoſophy, as in languages and belles lettres. He ſtudied divinity for ſeveral years in the ſame univerſity; where he was not only the favourite of his maſters, but had the good fortune to be received into the intimacy of ſome of them, particularly of the celebrated Dr Matthew Stuart, then profeſſor of mathematics, and the ingenious Mr William Cleghorn profeſſor of moral philoſophy. He was likewiſe at that time introduced to many of that ſet of friends and companions who have ſince been ornaments to the republic of letters, or conſpicuous in the church of Scotland; for though moſt of them were his ſeniors by eight or ten years, they were yet ſo much pleaſed with the liberality of his mind, and the ſweetneſs and vivacity of his temper, that they took him into their confidence and friendſhip, as if he had been the companion of their early days.

At the age of twenty Mr Wight paſſed one ſeſſion at the univerſity of Glaſgow, for the benefit of Dr Leechman's lectures in theology, then in the greateſt eſtimation. With him, and with many other profeſſors of diſtinguiſhed names, he there laid the foundation of a laſting friendſhip. Soon after this he became a probationer of the church of Scotland, and was immediately called to be miniſter of a diſſenting congregation in Dublin. To that city he went in the ſummer 1753, and was ordained miniſter of a meeting houſe in *Capel Street*, by that claſs of diſſenters who were diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Old Light*, on account of their adherence to the Confeſſion of Faith, the ancient creed of the Preſbyterians. But notwithſtanding this forbidding appellation, young

* It is a ſingular circumſtance worth relating, that in the ſame village of Brampton, and nearly about the ſame time, were born the Right Reverend Dr John Thomas, preſent Biſhop of Rocheſter, and the late Right Honourable James Wallace, his Majeſty's Attorney General. The one was the ſon of Dr Thomas, rector or vicar of Brampton, and the other was the ſon of an attorney ſettled in the ſame town. All their families lived in the greateſt intimacy, and their three ſons attained the higheſt honours of their ſeveral profeſſions.

Mr Wight foon became the moft fafhionable preacher in Dublin. For this, no doubt, he was beholden to the elegance of his manner, and the gracefulnefs of his countenance and perfon, which were remarkable, no lefs than to the fuperiority of his difcourfes. In public he was followed and admired by all ranks, and in private his company was much fought after, being peculiarly fuited to the manners of that capital, on account of his uncommon vivacity of temper and fprightlinefs of converfation.

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Dr Wight's talent for conversation, perhaps, surpassed all his other talents. Of whatever sex or age the company might be composed, whatever turn the conversation might take; whether it was gay or grave, rational or frivolous, literary or witty; whatever the subject might be, of learning or commerce, of the academy or the world; he had such a pleasing vivacity, and such a happy versatility of genius, that he excelled equally in every kind, and was the delight of every society. Nor was his wit on proper occasions less poignant than agreeable: for when pedantry was to be exposed, or an impostor detected and stripped of his pretences, he was ever ready to fulfil the wish of the company in a vein of pleasant but inoffensive raillery. *Mellco contingens cuncta lepore.*

Dr Wight's conversation, it must be owned, to his intimate acquaintance and friends, derived a peculiar charm from their knowledge of his perfect integrity and worth. No man was ever freer from the least tendency to meanness, selfishness, or guile, or possessed a higher degree of honour and generosity, mingled with the sweetest milk of human kindness, than he did. Though he was of a warm and hasty temper, his anger was like the flashes of lightning in a summer evening, which seem to kindle the sky for a moment, yet neither disturb its serenity nor hurt the beholder. Though frequently teased with the intrigues that proceed from such passions as are common to the academy with the cloister, he very seldom lost his temper. If he was sometimes impatient of folly, he could abide even ingratitude and malice without rancour.

His disposition led him to an hospitality that seemed too great for his circumstances: But his wish was to make every person near him happy; and he attained his wish. He loved the human race, and he was beloved by them. No man ever filled up the relations of life with more delicate attention, or with a more sincere and undissembled love. As a son, or a brother, or a kinsman, (for he never was married), his kindness could not be outdone. As he loved his friends, with whom he was more particularly intimate, without disguise, reserve, or bounds, he had his reward, if such virtue needed a reward; *for their souls were knit to his.*

There is nothing of Dr Wight's published but Heads of Lectures on Civil History. His design was to have offered the most interesting and luminous parts of that course in one volume to the public. But the debility of his constitution for many years of his life, and his necessary attention to his theological lectures for the four last years of it, left him no leisure to prepare them for the press.

Edin. Mag.

DUring the last war, Mr Fox, a merchant of Falmouth, had a share in a ship, which the other owners determined to fit out as a letter of marque, very much against the opinion and inclination of Mr Fox, who was of the society of Quakers. The ship had the luck to take two French merchantmen; and the share of the prize-money due to Mr Fox amounted to 1500l. At the close of the war Mr Fox sent his son * to Paris with the 1500l. which he faithfully repaid to the owners of the ships taken. The young Gentleman, to discover the owners of the vessels, was obliged to advertise for them in the Paris Gazette. In consequence of this advertisement, he received a letter from a small village near Nismes, in the province of Languedoc, acquainting him, that a society of Quakers was established in that remote part of France, consisting of about 100 families; that they were so much struck with this rare instance of generosity in one of their sect, that they were very desirous to open a correspondence with their friends in England. Since this incident, a Count of Marsillac, who is one of the heads of the society, has been in London to pay his friends there a visit, and is returned highly pleased with his reception. This society of French Quakers has subsisted in their present residence more than a century, without maintaining a correspondence with any other society. They are supposed to be a remnant of the ancient Albigenses, against whom several persecuting crusades were instituted in the reign of Philip II towards the close of the twelfth century. The Count de Marsillac was once a Captain of Horse before he became a Quaker.

* *This gentleman was lately elected one of the Physicians to the Bristol Infirmary.*

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

Extracts from Dr Gillies's history of ancient Greece, continued. [See p. 48.]

THE following are the Doctor's Reflections on the nature of the Religious Institutions of the Greeks, and on their effect as moral sanctions.

"The temple, which annexed the connection of civil power with sacred protection, was conferred on those who, while they continued the number ministers of the gods, were appointed to be the chief, but accountable guardians of the people. The same voice that summoned the warriors to arms, or that decided, in time of peace, their domestic contentions, conducted the order of their religious worship, and prefided in the prayers and hymns addreffed to the divinity. Their prayers and vows, together with the important rite of lacrifice (which likewife was performed by royal hands), formed the ceremonial part of the Grecian religion. The moral was far more extenfive, including the principal offices of life, and the noblest virtues of the mind. The martial quality of courage was peculiarly acceptable to the fierce god of war; but the virtues of charity and hospitality were ftill more pleading to the more amiable divinities. The submiffion of fubjects to their prince, the duty of a prince to preferve inviolate the rights of his fubjects, the obedience of children to their parents, the refpect of the young for the aged, the facred laws of truth, juftice, honour, and decency, were inculcated and maintained by the awful authority of religion. Even the moft ordinary tranfactions of private life were conferated by the piety of the Greeks. They ventured not to undertake a voyage, or a journey, without foliciting the propitious aid of their heavenly protectors. Every meal, and there were three in a day, was accompanied with a facrifice and libation. The common forms of politenefs, the cuftomary duties of civility, were not decided by the varying tafte of individuals, but defined by the precife voice of the gods.

It would have anfwered little purpofe to oppofe falutary laws to the capricious licence of barbarians, without guarding thofe laws by very powerful fanctions. Whether thefe fanctions be founded on opinion or on fact, i. e. with refpect to their influence on the mind, a matter of little moment. The dreaded vengeance of imaginary powers may be equally effectual with the real; if its arm and nature. The certainty of the punishment was firmly eftablifhed in the Grecian creed; and its operation was fuppofed to be immediate and unfailing, that it was impoffible for the tranfgreffor to prevent, or to elude its force. The daring violation of the facred law was often inftantly overtaken by manifeft marks of the Divine difpleafure. The violence and violence of the corrupted world, into Hades, were ftone to heaven, which deeper were foon overturned by the avenging hands of Deities. The unpunifhed infidel or guilty communities were a ftumbling to the minds of men, that the moft intrepid trode by vice of finifter, and it is evident from the writings throughout, that every important event, profperous or adverfe, which happened either to individuals or to nations, appeared to the pious religionift of the Greeks the reward of their religion and virtue, or the punifhment of their irreligion and vice. The merit of the father was often acknowledged in the protection of the fon; and the crimes of a guilty progenitor were often vifited on his defcendants to the third and fourth generation.

Thefe obfervations are confirmed, not only by the writings of Homer and Hefiod throughout, but by almoft every page of Herodotus, and of Pindar, as well as of the Greek tragedians and hiftorians; and yet they both to have regarded the nature of thofe of the moft ingenious inquirers into the opinions of antiquity. The authority of Greek writers ftrongly oppofes two fyftems, which have been fupported with great ability, and which have gained confiderable credit in the world. The firft, that the religion of the ancients had little or no connection with morality: the fecond, that the governments of Greece could not have been fupported without the doctrine of a future ftate. The connection between religion and morality is clearly aferted in the various paffages to which we have had occafion to allude; and the belief of a future ftate of retribution cannot, according to the principles of the learned author of the Divine Legation of Mofes, be reckoned neceffary to the government of men, who are univerfally perfuaded of the actual and immediate interpofition of Divine wifdom and juftice, to regulate, by temporal rewards and

or four gentlemen of rank in his house for many years, there was hardly one who did not leave him with regret, and with the warmest sense of the benefit they had, or might have received, from his mild, enlightened, and liberal instructions. The dignified manners of a gentleman, which he possessed, gave him an authority on which the boldest dared not to encroach; whilst the delicacy of his health, added to the charms of his temper, attracted the tender regard of the affectionate.

Dr Wight's talent for conversation, perhaps, surpassed all his other talents. Of whatever sex or age the company might be composed, whatever turn the conversation might take; whether it was gay or grave, rational or frivolous, literary or witty; whatever the subject might be, of learning or commerce, of the academy or the world; he had such a pleasing vivacity, and such a happy versatility of genius, that he excelled equally in every kind, and was the delight of every society. Nor was his wit on proper occasions less poignant than agreeable: for when pedantry was to be exposed, or an impostor detected and stripped of his pretences, he was ever ready to fulfil the wish of the company in a vein of pleasant but inoffensive raillery. *Mellco contingens cuncta lepore.*

Dr Wight's conversation, it must be owned, to his intimate acquaintance and friends, derived a peculiar charm from their knowledge of his perfect integrity and worth. No man was ever freer from the least tendency to meanness, selfishness, or guile, or possessed a higher degree of honour and generosity, mingled with the sweetest milk of human kindness, than he did. Though he was of a warm and hasty temper, his anger was like the flashes of lightning in a summer evening, which seem to kindle the sky for a moment, yet neither disturb its serenity nor hurt the beholder. Though frequently teased with the intrigues that proceed from such passions as are common to the academy with the cloister, he very seldom lost his temper. If he was sometimes impatient of folly, he could abide even ingratitude and malice without rancour.

His disposition led him to an hospitality that seemed too great for his circumstances: But his wish was to make every person near him happy; and he attained his wish. He loved the human race, and he was beloved by them. No man ever filled up the relations of life with more delicate attention, or with a more sincere and undissembled love. As a son, or a brother, or a kinsman, (for he never was married), his kindness could not be outdone. As he loved his friends, with whom he was more particularly intimate, without disguise, reserve, or bounds, he had his reward, if such virtue needed a reward; *for their souls were knit to his.*

There is nothing of Dr Wight's published but Heads of Lectures on Civil History. His design was to have offered the most interesting and luminous parts of that course in one volume to the public. But the debility of his constitution for many years of his life, and his necessary attention to his theological lectures for the four last years of it, left him no leisure to prepare them for the press.

Edin. Mag.

DUring the last war, Mr Fox, a merchant of Falmouth, had a share in a ship, which the other owners determined to fit out as a letter of marque, very much against the opinion and inclination of Mr Fox, who was of the society of Quakers. The ship had the luck to take two French merchantmen; and the share of the prize-money due to Mr Fox amounted to 1500l. At the close of the war Mr Fox sent his son * to Paris with the 1500l. which he faithfully repaid to the owners of the ships taken. The young Gentleman, to discover the owners of the vessels, was obliged to advertise for them in the Paris Gazette. In consequence of this advertisement, he received a letter from a small village near Nismes, in the province of Languedoc, acquainting him, that a society of Quakers was established in that remote part of France, consisting of about 100 families; that they were so much struck with this rare instance of generosity in one of their sect, that they were very desirous to open a correspondence with their friends in England. Since this incident, a Count of Marsilliac, who is one of the heads of the society, has been in London to pay his friends there a visit, and is returned highly pleased with his reception. This society of French Quakers has subsisted in their present residence more than a century, without maintaining a correspondence with any other society. They are supposed to be a remnant of the ancient Albigenses, against whom several persecuting crusades were instituted in the reign of Philip II towards the close of the twelfth century. The Count de Marsilliac was once a Captain of Horse before he became a Quaker.

* *This gentleman was lately elected one of the Physicians to the Bristol Infirmary.*

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

Extracts from Dr Gillies's Hiſtory of Ancient Greece, continued. [p 82.]

THE following are the Doctor's Reflections on the nature of the Religious Inſtitutions of the Greeks, and on their effect as moral ſanctions.

"The ſceptre, which denoted the connection of civil power with ſacred protection, was conferred on thoſe who, while they continued the humble miniſters of the gods, were appointed to be the chief, but accountable guardians of the people. The ſame voice that ſummoned the warriors to arms, or that decided, in time of peace, their domeſtic contentions, conducted the order of their religious worſhip, and preſided in the prayers and hymns addreſſed to the divinity. Theſe prayers and hymns, together with the important rite of ſacrifice (which likewiſe was performed by royal hands), formed the *ceremonial* part of the Grecian religion. The *moral* was far more extenſive, including the principal offices of life, and the nobleſt virtues of the mind. The uſeful quality of courage was peculiarly acceptable to the ſtern god of war; but the virtues of charity and hoſpitality were ſtill more pleaſing to the more amiable divinities. The ſubmiſſion of ſubjects to their prince, the duty of a prince to preſerve inviolate the rights of his ſubjects, the obedience of children to their parents, the reſpect of the young for the aged, the ſacred laws of truth, juſtice, honour, and decency, were inculcated and maintained by the awful authority of religion. Even the moſt ordinary tranſactions of private life were conſecrated by the piety of the Greeks. They ventured not to undertake a voyage, or a journey, without ſoliciting the propitious aid of their heavenly protectors. Every meal (and there were three in a day) was accompanied with a ſacrifice and libation. The common forms of politeneſs, the cuſtomary duties of civility, were not decided by the varying taſte of individuals, but defined by the preciſe voice of the gods.

It would have anſwered little purpoſe to oppoſe ſalutary laws to the capricious licence of barbarians, without guarding thoſe laws by very powerful ſanctions. Whether theſe ſanctions be founded on opinion or on fact, is, with reſpect to their influence on the mind, a matter of little moment. The dreaded vengeance of imaginary powers may be equally effectual with the fear of the axe and halter. The certainty of this vengeance was firmly eſtabliſhed in the Grecian creed: and its operation was ſuppoſed to be ſo immediate and palpable, that it was impoſſible for the inattention of men to overlook, or for their addreſs to elude its force. The daring violations of the ſacred law were ſpeedily overtaken by manifeſt marks of the Divine diſpleaſure. "The inſolence and violence of the corrupted youth, ſays Homer, cried aloud to heaven, whoſe decrees were ſoon executed by the avenging hands of Ulyſſes." The judgements inflicted on guilty communities were ſo familiar to the minds of men, that the poet introduces them by way of ſimilies; and it is evident from his writings throughout, that every important event, proſperous or adverſe, which happened either to individuals or to nations, appeared to the pious reſignation of the Greeks, the reward of their religion and virtue, or the puniſhment of their irreligion and vice. The merit of the father was often acknowledged in the protection of the ſon; and the crimes of a guilty progenitor were often viſited on his deſcendents to the third and fourth generation.

Theſe obſervations are confirmed, not only by the writings of Homer and Heſiod throughout, but by almoſt every page of Herodotus, and of Pindar, as well as of the Greek tragedians and hiſtorians; and yet they ſeem to have eſcaped the notice of ſome of the moſt ingenious inquirers into the opinions of antiquity. The authority of Greek writers ſtrongly oppoſes two ſyſtems, which have been ſupported with great ability, and which have gained conſiderable credit in the world. The firſt, that the religion of the ancients had little or no connection with morality: the ſecond, that the governments of Greece could not have been ſupported without the doctrine of a future ſtate. The connection between religion and morality is clearly aſſerted in the various paſſages to which we have had occaſion to allude; and the belief of a future ſtate of retribution cannot, according to the principles of the learned author of the Divine Legation of Moſes, be reckoned neceſſary to the government of men, who are fully perſuaded of the actual and immediate interpoſition of Divine wiſdom and juſtice, to regulate, by temporal rewards and

and puniſhments, the affairs of the preſent life.

As this perſuaſion had ſuch general and happy effects on the manners of the Greeks, it may be proper to conſider its origin, and to deſcribe more particularly the nature and genius of the ſuperſtition to which it gave birth; a ſuperſtition which, two thouſand years after loſing its imaginary authority over the uſeful occupations of men, ſtill preſerves a real power over their moſt elegant amuſements.

It belongs not to the deſign of this work to ſearch for the mythological tenets of Greece in the opinions of other nations: a ſubject of inquiry upon which much learned conjecture, and much laborious ingenuity, have already been very laudably, but I fear, not very ſucceſsfully employed. By the dim light of etymology and tradition, and the deceitful glare of legend and fable, inquiſitive men have endeavoured to trace the corrupted ſtreams of Pagan worſhip to the pure fountain of the Jewiſh diſpenſation. But the majeſty of Jehovah is very feebly repreſented by the united power of Homer's divinities: and the mythology of the Greeks is of ſuch a peculiar texture, that whenceſoever originally derived, it muſt have undergone a particular modification in the Grecian ſoil; nor is it eaſy to concur with the opinion of writers, who bring it immediately from Egypt, Chaldea, or Leſſer Aſia, when we conſider that there is not the ſmalleſt veſtige in Homer of the judicial aſtrology which prevailed ſo ſtrongly in the two firſt, or of the worſhipping of idols, which almoſt univerſally predominated in the laſt.

The difficulty of giving ſuch an hiſtorical deduction of the Grecian faith as would not be expoſed to innumerable objections, obliges us to trace its origin in the natural paſſions of the human heart, the hopes, the fears, the wants, the miſery of man, which have in all ages rendered him a prey to the terrors of ſuperſtition. This miſerable paſſion, which, in the civilized countries of modern Europe, operates only at diſtant intervals, and chiefly in the unfortunate moments of diſeaſe and danger, maintains a conſtant and uninterrupted power over the minds of barbarians. The diſproportionate force of the ſame principle among rude and among civilized men, is aſcribed by a common proverb to the groſs ignorance of the former; but it may, with more propriety, perhaps, be deduced from their precarious and unhappy manner of life, the continual dangers to which their exiſtence is expoſed, and the dreadful calamities in which the whole ſociety is too frequently involved. Even among poliſhed nations, the power of reaſon and philoſophy, however highly it may be extolled when the gentle current of life flows with placid tranquillity, always proves too feeble to reſiſt the mountain torrent and the ſtorm of winter. Under the preſſure of ſudden or inextricable calamity, all thoſe who are not more or leſs than men, have recourſe to the immediate aſſiſtance of inviſible powers; and in the ſplendid abodes of wealth and power, as well as in the American village or Tartar horde, the æra of a famine, a peſtilence, or an earthquake, is marked by ſincere expreſſions of faith, and commemorated by ſignal monuments of piety.

The great pillar of ſuperſtition, raiſed by the anxious paſſions of men, was fortified in Greece by a circumſtance incidental to all nations at a certain ſtage of their political progreſs. There is a period when nations emerging from barbarity, but not yet corrupted by the narrow purſuits of avarice, not yet ſoftened by the mean pleaſures of luxury, or contracted by the dangerous refinements of a ſelfiſh philoſophy, enjoy a peculiar ſenſibility of character, which exerts itſelf in the ardour of ſocial affection, and ſtrengthens, by a thouſand aſſociations, their belief of inviſible and intelligent powers. To men, thus diſpoſed to wonder and to believe, whatever dazzles the imagination, announces the preſence of a deity; dreams and celeſtial appearances are deemed ſacred and infallible admonitions; the ſilence and thick ſhade of a foreſt fills the ſoul with religious awe; and perſons, diſtinguiſhed by juſtice and piety, eaſily perſuade themſelves and others, that, as the beloved favourites of heaven, they are frequently honoured with holy inſpirations, and ſometimes indulged with the viſible preſence and happy intercourſe of their Divine protectors. Not only the religion but the ancient language and manners of Greece, ſufficiently atteſt the exiſtence of this exceſſive ſenſibility, which, in thoſe early times, gave an eaſy victory to the indulgent powers of fancy, over the ſevere dictates of reaſon.

The nature, the characters, and the occupations

occupations of the gods, were ſuggeſted by the lively feelings of an ardent, rather than by the regular invention of a cultivated mind. Theſe celeſtial beings were ſubject to the blind paſſions which govern unhappy mortals. Their wants, as well as their deſires, were ſimilar to thoſe of men. They required not the groſs nouriſhment of meat and wine, but they had occaſion to repair the waſte of their ethereal bodies by nectar and ambroſia; and they delighted in the ſteam of the ſacrifices, which equally gratified their ſenſes and flattered their vanity. The refreſhment of ſleep was neceſſary to reſtore their exhauſted ſtrength, and with the addition of a ſuperior, but limited degree of power, and wiſdom, and goodneſs, the gods of the heroic ages were nothing more than immortal men.

What was wanting in the dignity and perfection, was ſupplied by the number of the gods. Homer only deſcribes the principal and reigning divinities; but Heſiod, who gives the genealogical hiſtory of this fanciful hierarchy, makes the whole number amount to thirty thouſand. Among theſe, every virtue had its protector, every quality of extenſive power in human life had its patron, and every grove, and mountain, and river, its favourite inhabitants. Twelve divinities of ſuperior rank preſided over the active principles of the univerſe, and the leading virtues of the mind: but even theſe diſtinguiſhed beings were ſubject to the unrelenting power of vengeance and the fates, "who purſue the crimes of men and gods, and never ceaſe from their wrath till they have inflicted juſt puniſhment on the guilty ſons of earth and heaven."

The materials which fancy had created, poetry formed into beauty, and policy improved into uſe. The creed of the Greeks, thus adorned and enlarged, became the happieſt antidote againſt the furious reſentment, the ſavage cruelty, and the fierce ſpirit of ſullen independence, which uſually characteriſe the manners of barbarians. Yet theſe dreadful paſſions ſometimes forced their way through every mound which wiſdom had erected in order to oppoſe their courſe. Laws ſacred and profane were feeble barriers againſt the impetuoſity of their rage. The black vengeance of the heart was exerted in deeds of horror. The death of an enemy could not ſatisfy their inhuman cruelty. They burned with deſire to drink his hated blood, to devour his quivering limbs, and to expoſe his mangled remains to indignities equally odious and abominable in the ſight of gods and men. The powerful influence of religion was directed againſt the wild exceſſes of this ſanguinary temper. The brave Tydeus loſt for ever the protection of his adored Minerva by a ſingle act of ſavage ferocity. Humanity was inculcated by every precept of reaſon, and enforced by the ſtrongeſt motives of hope and fear. It was a firm article of belief, that hands ſtained with blood, even in the exerciſe of honourable war, were unworthy, till purified by luſtration, to be employed in the moſt ordinary functions of ſacred worſhip.

It would require a volume completely to illuſtrate the ſalutary effects of this ancient and venerable ſuperſtition, which was diſtinguiſhed above moſt other falſe religions, by the uncommon merit of doing much good, without ſeemingly occaſioning any conſiderable harm to ſociety. The Grecian tenets, while they inculcated profound reſpect to the gods, tended not to break the ſpirit, or to repreſs the courage, of their warlike votaries. The ancient heroes addreſſed their heavenly protectors in an erect poſture, with the unfeigned ſincerity of manly freedom. They expected to avert the calamities threatened by the anger of their divinities, not by inflicting on themſelves ſuch tortures as could be acceptable only to the mean reſentment of weak and wicked beings, but by repairing the wrongs which they had committed againſt their fellow-citizens, or compenſating, by new attentions, for the neglect ſhewn to the ceremonies of their national worſhip. In *their* eſtimation, the doing of injuries to men, and the omitting of prayer to the gods, were the principal cauſes of the Divine diſpleaſure; the incurring of which being juſtly conſidered as infinitely greater than all other misfortunes, they were ſolicitous to avert it, not only by an exact performance of external rites, but by a diligent practice of moral duties. The dangerous power of oracles, the abuſed privileges of aſylums, the wild raptures of prophetic enthuſiaſm, the abominable ceremonies of the Bacchanalia, and the horrid practice of human ſacrifice, circumſtances which cover with deſerved infamy the later periods of Paganiſm, were all unknown to the good ſenſe and purity of the heroic ages;

ages; nor is there to be diſcovered the ſmalleſt veſtige of any of theſe wild or wicked inventions, either in the writings of Homer, or of his contemporary Heſiod."

Concerning the cauſes which led to the eſtabliſhment of the Olympic Games, the deſign of the inſtitution, and its important conſequences, Dr Gillies thus ſpeaks:

"It was held an ancient and ſacred cuſtom in the heroic ages, to celebrate the funerals of illuſtrious men by ſuch ſhows and ceremonies as ſeemed moſt pleaſing to their ſhades. The tombs, around which the melancholy manes were ſuppoſed to hover, naturally became the ſcene of ſuch ſolemnities. There the fleeting ghoſts of departed heroes were entertained and honoured by exhibitions of bodily ſtrength and addreſs; while the gods, though inhabiting the broad expanſe of heaven, were yet peculiarly worſhipped, by prayers and ſacrifices, in the ſeveral places, which ſometimes the wildneſs, and ſometimes the elegance of fancy, had aſſigned for their favourite, though temporary, reſidence on earth. The lofty chain of Olympus, ſeparating the barbarous kingdom of Macedon from the fertile plains of Theſſaly, is diſtinguiſhed by ſeveral circumſtances, which ſeemed juſtly to intitle it to that honour. This long and lofty ridge aſcends above the regions of ſtorms and tempeſts. Its winding ſides are diverſified by woods, and interſected by torrents. Its fantaſtic tops, towering above the clouds, reflect, during day, the rays of the ſun, and ſometimes brighten the gloom of night with the lambent ſplendors of the Aurora Borealis. Olympus came, therefore, to be naturally regarded as the principal terreſtrial habitation of the gods; along the receſſes of this mountain each divinity had his appropriate palace; on its higheſt ſummit Jupiter often aſſembled the heavenly council; and from thence, veiled in a white gleam, the protectors of mankind deſcended, and were viſibly manifeſted to mortal eyes.

While Olympus was conſidered as the general rendezvous of theſe fanciful beings, it was natural to imagine that the partiality of particular divinities might ſelect other favourite ſpots of the earth for their ſeparate abode. The ſingular aſpect of Delphi, or Pytho, which recommended it as the ſeat of the oracle of Apollo, and afterwards of the Pythian games, has already been deſcribed. The Corinthian territory was particularly conſecrated to Neptune; for where could the god of the ſea be more properly worſhipped, than on the narrow iſthmus, whoſe ſhores were adorned by grateful monuments of delivered mariners, and which had continued, from early times, the principal center of Grecian navigation?

A tradition prevailed, that even before the Dorian conqueſt, the fruitful and pictureſque banks of the Alpheus, in the province of Elis, or Eleia, had been conſecrated to Jupiter. It is certain that athletic ſports, ſimilar to thoſe deſcribed by Homer at the funeral of Patroclus, had been on many occaſions exhibited in Elis, by aſſembled chiefs, with more than ordinary ſolemnity. The Dorian conquerors are ſaid to have renewed the conſecration of that delightful province. But the wars which early prevailed between them and the Athenians, and the jealouſies and hoſtilities which afterwards broke out among themſelves, totally interrupted the religious ceremonies and exhibitions with which they had been accuſtomed to honour their common gods and heroes. Amidſt the calamities which afflicted or threatened the Peloponneſus, Iphitus, a deſcendant of Oxylus, to whom the province of Eleia had fallen in the general partition of the peninſula, applied to the Delphic oracle. The prieſts of Apollo, ever diſpoſed to favour the views of kings and legiſlators, anſwered agreeably to his wiſh, that the feſtivals anciently celebrated at Olympia, on the Alpheus, muſt be renewed, and an armiſtice proclaimed for all the ſtates willing to partake of them, and deſirous to avert the vengeance of Heaven. Fortified by this authority, and aſſiſted by the advice of Lycurgus, Iphitus took meaſures, not only for reſtoring the Olympic ſolemnity, but for rendering it perpetual. The injunction of the oracle was ſpeedily diffuſed through the remoteſt parts of Greece, by the numerous votaries who frequented the ſacred ſhrine. The armiſtice was proclaimed in Peloponneſus, and preparations were made in Eleia, for exhibiting ſhows and performing ſacrifices. In the heroic ages, feats of bodily ſtrength and addreſs were deſtined to the honour of deceaſed warriors; hymns and ſacrifices were reſerved for the gods. But the flexible texture of Grecian ſuperſtition, eaſily confounding the expreſſions of reſpectful gratitude and pious veneration, enabled Iphitus to unite both in his new inſtitution.

The

The festival, which lasted five days, began and ended with a sacrifice to Olympian Jove. The intermediate time was chiefly filled up by the gymnastic exercises, in which all freemen of Grecian extraction were invited to contend, provided they had been born in lawful wedlock, and had lived untainted by any infamous immoral stain. The preparation for this part of the entertainment was made in the gymnasium of Elis, a spacious edifice, surrounded by a double range of pillars, with an open area in the middle. Adjoining were various apartments, containing baths, and other conveniences for the combatants. The neighbouring country was gradually adorned with porticoes, shady walks and groves, interspersed with seats and benches, the whole originally destined to relieve the fatigues and anxiety of the candidates for Olympic fame; and frequented, in later times, by sophists and philosophers, who were fond to contemplate wisdom, and communicate knowledge, in those delightful retreats. The order of the athletic exercises, or combats, was established by Lycurgus, and corresponded almost exactly to that described by Homer, in the twenty third book of the Iliad, and eighth of the Odyssy. Iphitus, we are told, appointed the other ceremonies and entertainments; settled the regular return of the festival at the end of every fourth year, in the month of July; and gave to the whole solemnity that form and arrangement, which it preserved with little variation above a thousand years; a period exceeding the duration of the most famous kingdoms and republics of antiquity.

Such is the account of Grecian writers, who have, doubtless, often ascribed to positive institution many inventions and usages naturally resulting from the progressive manners of society. When we come to examine the Elian games in their more improved state, together with the innumerable imitations of them in other provinces of Greece, there will occur reasons for believing, that many regulations referred, by an easy solution, to the legislative wisdom of Iphitus or Lycurgus, were introduced by time or accident, continued through custom, improved by repeated trials, and confirmed by a sense of their utility. Yet such an institution as the Olympiad, even in its least perfect form, must have been attended with manifest advantages to society. It is sufficient, barely to mention the suspension of hostilities which took place, not only during the celebration of the festival, but a considerable time both before and after it. Considered as a religious ceremony, at which the whole Grecian name were invited, and even enjoined, to assist, it was well adapted to facilitate intercourse, to promote knowledge, to soften prejudice, and to hasten the progress of civilization and humanity. Greece, and particularly Peloponnesus, was the centre from which the adventurous spirit of its inhabitants had diffused innumerable colonies through the surrounding nations. To these widely separated communities, which, notwithstanding their common origin, seem to have lost all connection and correspondence, the Olympiad served as a common bond of alliance, and point of reunion. The celebrity of this festival continually attracted to it the characters most distinguished for genius and enterprise, whose fame would have otherwise been unknown, and lost in the boundless extent of Grecian territory. The remote inhabitants, not only of European Greece, but of Asia and Africa, being assembled to the worship of common gods, were formed to the sense of a general interest, and excited to the pursuit of national honour and prosperity. Strangers of similar dispositions might confirm in Elis the sacred and indissoluble ties of hospitality. If their communities were endangered by any barbarous power, they might here solicit assistance from their Grecian brethren. On other occasions they might explain the benefits which, in peace or war, their respective countries were best qualified to communicate. And the Olympic festival might thus serve the purpose of resident ambassadors, and other institutions alike unknown to antiquity. M.

The Recess; or, a Tale of other Times. Vols 2. and 3. 12mo.

TO Miss Lee, the daughter of a celebrated actor of that name, the public are indebted for this interesting novel. The first volume was published several years ago, and very favourably received. Her principal personages are descendents from the celebrated Mary Queen of Scots, in consequence of an imaginary marriage between her and the Duke of Norfolk. The events of the novel are drawn from a supposed connection be-

tween the three principal characters, two of them the daughters, and one the grand-daughter of Mary; and Lords Leiceſter and Eſſex, the favourites of Elizabeth, and Carr, Earl of Somerſet. Elizabeth is repreſented by Miſs Lee as offering marriage to the Earl of Leiceſter, already united to the eldeſt daughter of her rival, on his ſudden return from the Netherlands. To evade this unexpected propoſal, he flies with his beloved conſort to the continent. This flight diſcovers the ſecret of her birth. On her arrival at Havre-de Grace, the Counteſs of Leiceſter, who is made the narrator of her own ſtory, thus expreſſes herſelf:

"I continued a long time too weak to quit my chambers, yet, at intervals, a new fear diſturbed me. I perceived my Lord abſent and anxious; frequently an extreme paleneſs overcame the floridneſs of nature, and traverſing the room for hours, he would give way to a chagrin, the cauſe of which not all my tendereſt entreaties could wring from him. I often recalled the words of my ſiſter; I fancied he vainly regretted the diſtinction of royalty, the pride of ſplendor, and the pleaſure of popularity. Accuſtomed to be the object of every eye, to have every wiſh foreſtalled, to be obeyed ere he ſpoke, I, ſighing, owned the change in his fate might well appear dreary. Not daring to hint my ideas, I impatiently expected the return of the expreſs ſent to Rouen, hoping it would open new proſpects, and diſperſe the heavy cloud between him and felicity. But O! how deluſive is human perſpicacity: inſolently vain of our bounded knowledge, we boaſt of tracing every thought and action of individuals feas divide from us, even at the very moment we miſjudge all with whom we are immediately ſurrounded. My fond attention, fixed partially on Lord Leiceſter, looked not out of himſelf for cauſes of grief. Receiving, at this interval, a kind invitation from Lady Mortimer, my aunt, to her reſidence at Rouen, I raiſed my eyes, breathleſs with joy, to Lord Leiceſter, who had been peruſing it over my ſhoulder; they met his full of a ſadneſs ſo meaning, it numbed my very heart.

Long uſed now to dread every day would team with ſome horrible event, I ſnatched his hand, and, in broken accents, only begged to know it. He ſunk at my feet, and, hiding his tears with my robe, ſwelled with ſobs that almoſt cracked my heartſtrings. "You have told me you loved me, Matilda," ſaid he, in a broken and doubtful voice. "Told you!" re-echoed I; "heavens and earth! can that, my Lord, remain a queſtion? have I not for you forgot the rights of ſex, of rank, of every thing but love?" "Have I not done all man could to deſerve theſe ſacrifices?" again demanded he. "Debate no more admitted merits," cried I, with wild impatience; "O give me the truth, and all the truth, at once; nor doubly torture me with this pomp of preparation. Whatever it is, I will remember there might be a worſe, ſince my eyes ſtill behold you; every evil but your danger my ſoul can cope with. You ſpeak not yet: we are, then, diſcovered, betrayed, delivered up, condemned; the fatal power of Elizabeth has reached us even here; for nothing elſe can ſurely thus affect you." "It has, indeed," ſighed he. "O! why then, exclaimed I, forgetful of all my aſſurances, "am I unprovided with poiſon? for death muſt now be the only mercy hoped. May the ocean, from which we with ſo much difficulty eſcaped, entomb us on our return, rather than reſign us up to her licenſed vengeance." "The power of Elizabeth has reached us," added he, "more mournfully, though not in our own perſons. Safe ſtill in my arms, in my heart, you may, my love, long arraign and bewail a misfortune all Europe will bewail with you." His ſympathizing eyes explained the truth, the agonizing truth; my ſoul underſtood him, aghaſt with horror, my eyes ſeemed to ſet, and every limb to ſtiffen to marble; a ſenſation, to which fainting is eaſe, condenſed every faculty; and nature, powerful nature, ſtruck on my heart, at the thought of my mother, with a pang, perhaps equal to that with which ſhe bore me. The radiant ſun of love ſeemed to dip into a ſea of blood before me, and ſink there for ever. Unable to reduce the torrent of my ideas into language, I buried my head in my robe, and pointed to the door, that all might leave me. Happily, my Lord ſaw a prudence in indulging me, and, laying down ſeveral letters, inſtantly retired. A horrible tranſport, for ſome moments, benumbed me;—how multiplied, how complicate, how various, how new, were then my feelings! feelings which ever return with the remembrance! feelings which opened a vein in my character, as well

well as my heart—all ſenſe of gentleneſs vaniſhed. The firſt paper I peruſed confirmed my fears—I ſaw, in the firſt lines, the decided fate of the martyred Mary.—I ſeemed to behold the ſavage hand of Elizabeth, dipt in the blood of an anointed ſiſter ſovereign.—I felt ſhe was my mother, my fond, my helpleſs mother; and my heart floated in tears, which were hours working their way up to my burning eyes. The furies of Oreſtes ſeemed to ſurround me, and thunder parricide, nothing but parricide, in my ear. What! groaned I, after ſo long an endurance, ſuch complicated evils, ſupported with a patience that left not her enemies a pretence for ſacrificing her, that miſery was reſerved for her daughter! Perhaps, even at the moment ſhe laid that beauteous head, ſo many hearts were born to worſhip, on the block, every agony of death was doubled, by the knowledge her daughter brought her there.—Why did I not periſh in the receſs by lightning? Why did not the ocean entomb me? Why, why, O God! was I permitted to ſurvive my innocence? In the wilderneſs of my affliction, I curſed the hour, the fatal hour, when I ventured beyond the bounds preſcribed me. Yes; love, love itſelf was annihilated; and (could I once have believed it) deeply did I wiſh I had never ſeen Lord Leiceſter. Paſſing from paper to paper, I ſaw friends and enemies unite in the eulogium of the royal martyr. What magnanimity, what ſweetneſs, what ſanctitude did they aſſign to her—a bright example in the moſt awful of trials!—Subliming the idea of revenge inſeparable from human nature, ſhe centered it all in compariſon.—And what a compariſon!—caſting off the veil of her mortality, to darken over the future days of Elizabeth, the radiant track of her aſcenſion concentered, while it dimmed the eyes of thoſe ſurrounding nations, who, too late, bewailed their ſhameful inactivity. Spirit of the royal Mary! O thou moſt injured! ſighed out, at laſt, my exhauſted ſoul, from that bleſſedneſs, to which the wretch, now levelled with the duſt, perhaps too early tranſlated thee, beam peace and pardon! Aſſuage the horrors of the involuntary ſin, and O! receive my life as its expiation; or a little, but a little, ſoothe its ſad remainder!"

As Matilda, the elder of the Princeſſes, is the wife of Lord Leiceſter; the younger, who is named Ellinor, is engaged to the amiable and unfortunate Earl of Eſſex. On the diſcovery of her birth, ſhe is made a priſoner at the villa of Lord Burleigh, where a thouſand infamous arts are practiſed upon her to induce her to a conduct contrary to her intereſt and her inclinations. By ſucceſſive threats againſt the life of her mother and of Eſſex, ſhe is firſt brought to ſign a paper declaring the ſtory of her birth to be an impoſture, and then to give her hand to a man ſhe deteſts.

The natural conſequence of this treatment is infanity. The diſtemper, however, only ſeizes her at intervals, and ſometimes leaves her for years ſenſible and collected. On the execution of Eſſex, ſhe becomes an incurable maniac. Breaking, in one inſtance, from her keepers, ſhe forces her way to the preſence of Elizabeth, and reaches the royal bedchamber. To deceive her keepers, it had been reported that ſhe was dead; Elizabeth is therefore ſuppoſed to conſider her as a ſpectre commiſſioned to wound her boſom with another arrow. As a farther ſpecimen of Miſs Lee's powers of deſcription, we ſhall ſelect this part of the narrative, in which the well-known and deplorable incidents attending the concluding ſcenes of this incomparable Princeſs, are happily interwoven with the fiction of the writer.

"The Queen, wholly ſunk in the chilling melancholy of incurable deſpair and hopeleſs rage, reſigned herſelf up to the influence of thoſe evils. Her ladies were often employed in reading to her, which was the only amuſement her chagrin admitted.——One memorable night it was my turn. Elizabeth dimiſſed every other attendant, in the vain hope of finding a repoſe of which ſhe had for ever deprived herſelf. I purſued my taſk a long while, when the time conſpired with the orders of the Queen to produce a ſilence ſo profound, that had not her ſtarts now and then recalled my ſenſes, hardly could my half-cloſed eyes have diſcerned the pages over which they wandered. The door flew ſuddenly open—a form ſo fair—ſo fragile—ſo calamitous, appeared there, that hardly durſt my beating heart call it Ellinor. The Queen ſtarted up with a feeble quickneſs, but had only power to faulter out a convulſive ejaculation. I inſtantly remembered that Elizabeth believed her dead, and imagined this her ſpectre. The beauteous phantom (for ſurely never mortal

looked ſo like an inhabitant of another world) ſunk on one knee; and, while her long garments of black flowed gracefully over the floor, ſhe lifted her eyes toward heaven, with that nameleſs ſweetneſs, that wild ineffable benignity madneſs alone can give, then meekly bowed before Elizabeth.—The Queen, heart-ſtruck, fell back into her ſeat, without voice to pronounce a ſyllable. Ellinor aroſe, and approached ſtill nearer; ſtanding a few moments choaked and ſilent. "I once was proud, was paſſionate, indignant," ſaid the ſweet unfortunate at laſt, in the low and broken voice of inexpreſſible anguiſh; "but Heaven forbids me now to be ſo.—O! you who are ſurely born only to chaſtiſe my unhappy race, forgive me—I have no longer any ſenſe but that of ſorrow."—Again ſhe ſunk upon the floor, and gave way to ſobbings ſhe ſtruggled in vain to ſuppreſs. The Queen dragged me convulſively to her, and, burying her face in my boſom, exclaimed indiſtinctly, "Save me, ſave me, O! Pembroke, ſave me from this ghaſtly ſpectre!"—"Eſſex—Eſſex—Eſſex!" groaned forth the proſtrate Ellinor, expreſſively raiſing her white hand at each touching repetition.—The violent ſhudderings of the Queen marked the deep effect that fatal name took on her.—"Somebody told me," continued the lovely wanderer, "that he was in the Tower; but I have looked there for him till I am weary—is there a colder, ſafer priſon, then? But is a priſon a place for your *favourite?* and can you condemn him to the grave?—Ah, gracious Heaven! ſtrike off his head—his beauteous head! ſeal up thoſe ſparkling eyes for ever!—O, no! I thought not," ſaid ſhe with an altered voice.—"So you hid him *here*, after all, only to torment me. But Eſſex will not ſee me ſuffer—will you, my Lord? So—ſo—ſo"—the ſlow progreſs of her eyes round the room ſhewed, ſhe in imagination followed his ſteps.—"Yes—yes,"—added ſhe with revived ſpirits, "I thought that voice would prevail; for who could ever reſiſt it?—and only I need die, then; well! I do not mind that—I will ſteal into his priſon, and ſuffer in his place; but be ſure you don't tell him ſo, for he loves *me*—ah! dearly does he love me; but I alone need ſigh at that, you know." And ſigh ſhe did, indeed. O! what a world of woe was drawn up in a ſingle breath!—The long ſilence which followed, induced the Queen once more to raiſe her head—the ſame ſad object met her eyes, with this difference, that the ſweet creature now ſtood up again, and, putting one white hand to her forehead, ſhe half raiſed the other, as earneſtly demanding ſtill to be heard, though her vague eyes ſhewed her purpoſe had eſcaped her. "O! now I remember," reſumed ſhe; "I do not mind how you have me murdered, but let me be buried in Fotheringay; and be ſure I have women to attend me; *be ſure* of that—you know the reaſon." This incoherent reference to the unprecedented fate of her royal mother affected Elizabeth deeply.—"But could not you let me once more ſee him before I die?" reſumed the dear wanderer. "O! what pleaſure would it give me to view him on the throne! O! I *do* ſee him there!" exclaimed ſhe, in the voice of ſurpriſe and tranſport. "Benign, majeſtic! Ah! how glorious in his beauty! Who would not die for thee my Eſſex——!" "Alas! never, never, never, ſhall *I* ſee him!" groaned forth the agonized Elizabeth.—"Me married to him" reſumed our friend, replying to ſome imaginary ſpeech——"O, no! I took warning by my ſiſter! I will have no more bloody marriages: you ſee I have no ring," wildly diſplaying her hands, "except a black one; a *black* one, indeed, if you knew all; but I need not tell *you* that; have I, my Lord—? look up—here is my love—he himſelf ſhall tell you." She caught the hand terror had cauſed Elizabeth to extend; but, faintly ſhrieking, drew back her own, ſurveying it with inexpreſſible horror. "O! you have dipt mine in blood!" exclaimed ſhe; "a mother's blood! I am all contaminated—it runs cold to my very heart. Ah! no—it is—it is the blood of Eſſex! and have you murdered him at laſt, in ſpite of your dotage, and your promiſes? murdered the moſt noble of mankind! and all becauſe he could not love you. Fie on your wrinkles!—can one love age and ugline ſs? O! how thoſe artificial locks, and all your paintings, ſickened him!—How have we laughed at ſuch prepoſterous folly!—But I have done with laughing now—we will talk of graves, and ſhrouds, and churchyards.—Methinks I would fain know where my poor ſiſter lies buried—you will ſay, in my heart, perhaps—it has, indeed, entombed all I love; yet there muſt be ſome little unknown corner in this world one might call

call her grave, if one could but tell where to find it: there ſhe reſts, at laſt, with her Leiceſter – he was *your favourite* too —a bloody, bloody diſtinction!" — The Queen, who had with difficulty preſerved her ſenſes till this cutting period, now ſunk back in a deep ſwoon.

The diſtreſs of my ſituation cannot be expreſſed. Fearful leſt any attempt to ſummon a ſingle being ſhould irritate the injured Ellinor to execute any dire revenge, for which I knew not how ſhe was prepared, had not Elizabeth, at this juncture, loſt her ſenſes, I really think mine would have failed me. I recollected that the Queen, by every teſtimony, was convinced the unhappy object, thus fearfully brought before her, died in the country long ſince; nor was it wiſe or ſafe, for thoſe who had impoſed on her, now to acknowledge the deception. "So —ſo—ſo," cried Ellinor, with a ſtart, "would one have thought it poſſible to break that hard heart, after all? and I have done it. She is gone to—no; not gone to Eſſex."——"Let us retire, my ſweet Ellen," ſaid I, eager to get her out of the room, "leſt the Queen ſhould ſuffer for want of aſſiſtance."—"Huſh!" cried ſhe, with increaſing wildneſs, "they will ſay we have beheaded her alſo. But who are you?" fixing her hollow eyes wiſtfully on me; "I have ſeen you ſomewhere ere now; but I forget all faces in gazing on his pale one. I know not where I am, nor where you would have me go," added ſhe, ſoftly ſighing; "but you look like an angel of light; and may be, you will carry me with you to heaven." I ſeized the bleſſed minute of compliance, and, drawing her mourning hood over her face, led her to the little court, where my ſervants waited my diſmiſſion; when, committing her to their charge, I returned to wake the ladies in the antichamber, through whoſe inadvertent ſlumbers alone, Ellinor had been enabled to paſs to the cloſet of the Queen; a circumſtance which combined, with a variety of others, to give this ſtrange viſitation the appearance of being ſupernatural.

Every common means were tried in vain to recover the Queen, and the applications of the faculty alone could recal her ſenſes; but the terror ſhe had endured has ſhook them for ever. Shuddering with apprehenſions, for which only I can account, ſhe often holds incomprehenſible conferences; complains of an ideal viſitor; commands every door to be ſhut; yet ſtill fancies ſhe ſees her, and orders her to be kept out in vain. The ſuppoſed diſregard of thoſe in waiting incenſes a temper ſo many cauſes concur to render peeviſh, and her unmerited anger produces the very diſregard ſhe complains of. Rage and fear unite thus to haraſs her feeble age, and accelerate the decay of nature. When theſe acute ſenſations ſubſide, grief and deſpair take poſſeſſion of her whole ſoul; nor does ſhe ſuffer leſs from the ſenſe of her decaying power. Unwilling to reſign a good ſhe is unable to enjoy, ſhe thinks every hand that approaches is eager to ſnatch a ſceptre ſhe will not even in dying bequeath. O ſweet Matilda! if yet indeed thou ſurviveſt to witneſs this divine vengeance, thy gentle tears would embalm even thy moſt mortal enemy! thou couldſt not, without pity, behold the imperial Elizabeth, loſt to the common comforts of light, air, nouriſhment, and pleaſure; that mighty mind, which will be the object of future, as it has been of paſt, wonder, preſenting now but a breathing memento of the frailty of humanity. Ah! that around her were aſſembled all thoſe aſpiring ſouls, whoſe wiſhes center in dominion; were they once to behold this diſtinguiſhed victim of ungoverned paſſion, able to rule every being but herſelf, how would they feel the potent example? Ah! that to them were added the many, who ſcorning ſocial love, confine to ſelf the bleſſed affections which alone can ſweeten the tears we all are born to ſhed! Gathering round the weary couch where the emaciated Queen withers in royal ſolitude, they might at once learn urbanity, and correct, in time, errors, which, when indulged, but too ſeverely puniſh themſelves."

Bozzy and Piozzi; or, the Britiſh Biographers, a Town Eclogue. By Peter Pindar, Eſq; 4to. pp. 54.

ALAS, poor Johnſon! A living dog has often been declared better than a dead lion; and now thou art dead, thoſe whom prudence taught to keep aloof, venture forth, to feed upon the ſcraps of thy ſtrength and thy weakneſſes, exult in their emancipation, and pick thy very bones. The Author of this burleſque, among the reſt, has brought BOZZY and PIOZZI on the ſtage, like the contending ſwains in paſtorals, to rehearſe the [illegible] trifling

trifling and ridiculous paſſages they have retailed of Dr Johnſon, before Sir John Hawkins. The complexion of the piece may be conceived from the following ſpecimen.

" WHEN Johnſon fought (as Shakeſpeare ſays) *that bourn*,
From whence, alas! no travellers return;
In *humbler* Engliſh, when the Doctor died,
Apollo whimper'd and the Muſes cried;
Parnaſſus mop'd for days, in buſineſs ſlack,
And like a *herſe*, the hill was hung with *black*.
Minerva ſighing for her *fav'rite* ſon,
Pronounc'd, with lengthen'd face, the world *undone*:
Her Owl, too, hooted in ſo loud a ſtyle,
That people might have heard the bird *a mile*:
Jove wip'd his eyes ſo red, and told his wife
He ne'er made Johnſon's *equal* in his life;
And that 'twould be a *long time* firſt, if *ever*,
His art could form a fellow *half ſo clever*:
Venus, of all the little loves, the Dam,
With all the Graces ſobb'd for Brother Sam:
Such were the heav'nly howlings for his death,
As if Dame Nature had *reſign'd* her breath.
Nor leſs ſonorous was the grief, I ween,
Amidſt the natives of our *earthly* ſcene:
From beggars, to the GREAT who hold the helm,
One *Johnſ-mania* rag'd through all the realm!
" *Who* (cried the world) can match his proſe or rhime?
O'er wits of modern days he tow'rs *ſublime*!
An Oak, wide ſpreading o'er the *ſhrubs* below,
That round his roots, with puny foliage blow,
A Pyramid, amidſt ſome barren waſte,
That frowns o'er *huts* the ſport of every blaſt:
A mighty Atlas, whoſe aſpiring head
O'er diſtant regions caſts an awful ſhade.
By Kings and vagabonds his tales are told,
And ev'ry ſentence glows a *grain of gold!*
Bleſt! who his philoſophic phiz can *take*,
Catch ev'n his *weaknеſſes*, his noddle's *ſhake*,
The lengthen'd lip of ſcorn, the forehead's ſcowl, [growl,
The low'ring eye's contempt, and bear-like
In vain the critics vent their toothleſs rage!
Mere *ſprats*, that venture war with whales to wage:
Unmov'd he ſtands, and feels their force *no more*
Than ſome huge rock amidſt the *wat'ry roar*,
That calmly bears the tumults of the deep,
And howling tempeſts, that as well might *ſleep*."
Strong, 'midſt the Rambler's *cronies*, was the rage
To fill with Sam's *bons mots* and tales the page:
Mere flies, that buzz'd around his ſetting ray,
And bore a *ſplendour*, on their wings, away:
Thus round his orb the pigmy planets run,
And catch their little luſtre from the SUN.
At length, ruſh'd forth two candidates for fame,
A Scotchman *one*, and *one* a London Dame:
That, by th' *emphatic* Johnſon chriſt'ned Bozzy;
This, by the Biſhop's licence, Dame Piozzi;
Whoſe *widow'd* name, by topers lov'd, was Thrale,
Bright in the annals of *election ale*:
A name, by *marriage*, that gave up the *ghoſt!*
In *poor* Pedocchio*—no!—Piozzi, loſt!
Each ſeiz'd with ardour wild the grey-gooſe quill:
Each ſet to work the *intellectual mill*;
That *pecks* of *bran* ſo coarſe began to pour,
To *one ſmall* ſolitary grain of *flour*.
Forth ruſh'd to fight their books—but *who* ſhould ſay,
Which bore the palm of anecdote away?
This to decide, the Rival Wits agreed
Before Sir John their tales and jokes to read,
And let the Knight's opinion in the ſtrife
Declare the prop'reſt pen to write Sam's Life:
Sir John, renown'd for muſical† palavres,
The Prince, the King, the EMPEROR of *quavers!*
Sharp in ſolfeggi, as the ſharpeſt needle;
Great in the noble art of tweedle-tweedle;
Of Muſic's college form'd to be a fellow,
Fit for Muſ D. or Maeſtro de Capella;
Whoſe volume, tho' it here and there offends,
Boaſts *German merit*—makes by *bulk* amends,
Superior, frowning o'er *effavo wits*,
High plac'd the venerable Quarto ſits;
And *duodecimo*, ignoble ſcum!
Poor proſtitutes to every vulgar thumb!
Whilſt undefil'd by literary rage,
He bears a *ſpotleſs* leaf from age to age.
Like *ſchool-boys*, lo! before a two arm'd chair
That held the Knight, wiſe judging, ſtood the Pair:
Or like two *ponies* on the ſporting ground
Prepar'd to gallop when the drum ſhould ſound,
The couple rang'd—for vict'ry both as keen,
As for a tott'ring biſhopric a Dean. [ings
Or Patriot BURKE, for giving glorious baſt-
To that *intolerable fellow* HASTINGS
Thus with their ſons contended Virgil' ſwains,
And made the valleys vocal with their ſtrains,
Before ſome gray beard ſwain, whoſe judgement ripe,
Gave goats for prizes to the *prettieſt* pipe.

* *The Author was nearly committing a blunder—fortunate indeed was his recollection: as Pedocchio ſignifies, in the Italian language, that moſt contemptible of all animals, a Louſe.*

† *Vide his Hiſtory of Muſic.*

" *Alternately*

"*Alternately*, in anecdotes, go on;
But *firſt*, begin you, Madam," cried Sir John:
The thankful Dame low curtſied to the Chair,
And thus, for vict'ry panting, read the Fair.

Madame PIOZZI.

Sam Johnſon was of Michael Johnſon born,
Whoſe ſhop of books did Litchfield town adorn:
Wrong-headed, ſtubborn as a *halter'd* ram;
In ſhort, the *model* of our Hero Sam:
Inclin'd to *madneſs too*—for when his ſhop
Fell down for want of caſh to buy a prop;
For fear the thieves might ſteal the *vaniſh'd* ſtore,
He duly went each night, and *lock'd the door!*

BOZZY.

Whilſt Johnſon was in Edinburgh, my wife,
To pleaſe his palate, ſtudied for her life:
With ev'ry rarity ſhe fill'd her houſe,
And gave the Doctor, for his dinner, *grouſe*.

Pioz. Dear Doctor Johnſon was in ſize an ox;
And from his uncle Andrew learn'd to *box*:
A man to wreſtlers and to bruiſers dear,
Who kept the ring in Smithfield a *whole* year.

Boz. At ſupper, roſe a dialogue on witches,
When Croſbie ſaid, there could not be ſuch b-tch-es;
And that 'twas *blaſphemy* to think *ſuch* hags
Could ſtir up ſtorms, and on their *broomſtick* nags,
Gallop along the air with wond'rous pace
And boldly fly in God Almighty's face:
But Johnſon anſwer'd him, "there *might be* witches,
Nought prov'd the non-exiſtence of the b-tch-s."

Pioz. When Thrale, as nimble as a boy at ſchool,
Jump'd, tho' fatigu'd with hunting, o'er a *ſtool*;
The Doctor, proud the ſame grand feat to *do*,
His pow'rs exerted, and jump'd over too.
And tho' he might a broken back bewail,
He ſcorn'd to be *eclips'd* by Mr Thrale

Boz. At Ulimſh, our friend, to paſs the time,
Regal'd us with his knowledges *ſublime*:
Show'd that all ſorts of learning fill'd his nob,
And that in *butchery* he could *bear a bob*.
He *ſagely* told us of the diff'rent feat
Employ'd to kill the animals we eat:
An ox, ſays he, in country and in town,
Is, by the butchers, conſtantly *knock'd down*:
As for that leſſer animal, a calf,
The knock is really not ſo ſtrong *by half*:
The beaſt is only *ſtunn'd*: but as for goats,
And ſheep, and lambs; the butchers *cut their throats*.
Thoſe fellows only want to keep them *quiet*,
Not chuſing that the brutes ſhould breed a *riot*.

Pioz. When Johnſon was a child, and ſwallow'd pap,
'Twas in his mother's old maid Catharine's lap.
There, whilſt he ſat, he took in wond'rous learning,
For much his bowels were for knowledge *yearning*;
There, heard the ſtory which we Britons brag on,
The ſtory of St George and *eke* the Dragon.

Boz. When Foote his leg by ſome misfortune broke,
Says *I* to Johnſon, all by way of joke,
"Sam, Sir, in Paragraph, will ſoon be clever,
And take off Peter better now than ever"
On which, ſays Johnſon, without *heſitation*,
"George* will rejoice at Foote's *depeditation*."
On which ſays *I*, *a penetrating elf!*
"Doctor, I'm ſure you *coin'd* that word *yourſelf*."
On which he *laugh'd*; and ſaid I had *divin'd it*;
For *bona fide* he had *really coin'd it*
"And, yet, of all the words I've *coin'd* (ſays he),
My Dictionary, Sir, contains but *three*."

Pioz. The Doctor ſaid, in literary matters
A Frenchman goes not *deep*—he only *ſmatters*:
Then aſk'd, what could be hop'd for from the dogs,
Fellows that liv'd eternally on *frogs?*

Boz. In grave proceſſion to St Leonard's college,
Well ſtuff'd with ev'ry ſort of uſeful knowledge.
We *ſtately* walk'd as ſoon as ſupper ended;
The landlord and the waiter both attended.
The landlord, ſkill'd a piece of greaſe to handle,
Before us march'd, and held a tallow candle:
A lantern (ſome fam'd Scotſman its creator),
With *equal grace* was carried by the waiter:
Next morning, from our beds we took a leap,
And found ourſelves much better for our ſleep.

Pioz. In Lincolnſhire, a lady ſhow'd her friend
A grotto, that ſhe wiſh'd him to *commend*:
Quoth ſhe, "How *cool* in ſummer this abode!"
"Yes, Madam, (anſwer'd Johnſon) for a *toad*."

Boz Between old Scalpa's rugged iſle and Raſay's,
The wind was vaſtly boiſt'rous in our faces:
'Twas *glorious*, Johnſon's figure to ſet ſight on—
High in the boat, he look'd a noble Triton!
But lo! to damp our pleaſure, Fate concurs,
For Jo. the blockhead loſt his maſter's ſpurs;
This, for the Rambler's temper was a *rubber*,
Who wonder'd Joſeph could be ſuch a lubber.

* *George Faulkner, the printer at Dublin, taken off by Foote in the character of Sir Peter Paragraph.*

Pioz.

Piz. I aſk'd him, if he knock'd Tom Of born' down.
As ſuch a tale was current through the town--
Says I "Do tell me, Doctor, what befell?"
"Why, deareſt lady, there is nought to *tell*:
I ponder'd on the *prop'reſt* mode to *treat* him--
The *dog* was *impudent*, and ſo I *beat him!*
Tom, like a fool, *proclaim'd his* fancied wrongs;
Others that I *belabour'd* held their tongues."
Did any one that he was *happy*, cry—
Johnſon would tell him *plumply*, 'twas a lie;
A Lady told him ſhe was *really ſo*:
On which he ſternly anſwer'd, "Madam, *no!*
Sickly you are, and ugly—fooliſh, poor;
And therefore can't be *happy*, I am ſure. [ear
'Twould make a fellow hang himſelf whoſe
Were from *ſuch creatures*, forc'd ſuch ſtuff to hear."

Boz. Lo! when we landed on the Iſle of Mull,
The *megrims* got into the Doctor's ſcull:
With ſuch bad humours he began to fill,
Though he would not go to Icolmkill:
But lo! thoſe megrims (wonderful to utter!)
Were ban ſh'd all by tea and bread and butter!

Piz. The Doctor had a cat, and chriſt'ned Hodge,
That at his houſe in Fleet ſtreet us'd to lodge--
This Hodge grew old, and ſick, and us'd to with
That all his dinners were compos'd of *fiſh*.
To pleaſe poor Hodge, the Doctor all ſo kind,
Went out, and bought him *oyſters to his mind*.
This ev'ry day he did—nor aſk'd black Frank†,
Who deem'd himſelf of much too high a rank,
With *vulgar fiſh fags* to be forc'd to chat,
And purchaſe oyſters for a *mangy* Cat.

Sir John. For God's ſake, ſtay each anecdotic ſcrap,
Let me draw breath, and take a trifling nap:
With one half hour's refreſhing ſlumber bleſt,
And Heav'n's aſſiſtance, I may beat the *reſt*.

The Knight's nap, however, was diſturbed by dreams.

For lo! in dreams the ſurly *Rambler* roſe,
And wildly ſtaring, ſeem'd a *man of woes*.
Wake, *Hawkins*, (growl'd the Doctor with a frown),
And knock *that* fellow and *that* woman down— [ther—
Bid them with Johnſon's life proceed no fur-
Enough already they have dealt in murther;
Say, to their tales that little truth belongs—
If *fame* they mean me—bid them *hold their tongues*.

The Doctor goes on to give his opinion of Bozzy and ſome advice to the lady, and concludes his ſpeech with,

Tell *Peter Pindar*, ſhould you chance to meet him,
I like his *genius*—ſhould be glad to greet him.
Yet let him know, *crown'd heads* are ſacred things,
And bid him rev'rence more the *beſt of kings*;
Still on his *Pegaſus* continue *jogging*,
And give that *Boſwell's* back another flogging.

Sir John being awakened, the candidates are informed,

———that, enabled by the nap,
He now could meet *more* biographic ſcrap.

They accordingly proceed with freſh courage, and a number of anecdotes are inimitably told, till at length, Bozzy, ſpeaking rather irreverently of Mr Wilkes, the lady takes offence, and an altercation commences, which is kept up with great ſpirit at leaſt.

Piz. Who told of Mrs Montague the lie—
So palpable a falſehood—*Bozzy, ſir!*"
Boz. Who, madening with anecdotic itch,
Declar'd that Johnſon call'd his mother bitch?
Piz. Who, from Macdonald's rage to ſave him
Cut twenty lines of defamation out? [ſnout,

In this ſtyle they go on, dooming alternately each other's works to the paſtry-cook and trunk-maker, till at laſt Boſwell exclaims,

The praiſe of COURTENAY my book's fame ſecures,
Now, who the devil, Madam, praiſes yours?
Piz. Thouſands, you blockhead—no one now can doubt it;
For not a ſoul in London is *without it*. [ſquire
So! Courtenay's praiſes ſave you—oh! that
Deals, let me tell you, more in ſmoke than fire.
Boz. Zounds! he has prais'd me in the *ſweeteſt* line——
Piz. Ay! ay! the *verſe* and *ſubject* equal ſhine.
Few are the mouths that COURTENAY's wit rehearſe—
Mere *cork* in politics, and *lead* in verſe.

Having railed themſelves almoſt out of breath, Sir John takes the opportunity thus to addreſs them:

For ſhame! for ſhame! for Heaven's ſake, pray be quiet,
Not Billingſgate exhibits ſuch a riot.
Behold, for Scandal you have made a feaſt,
And turn'd your *idol* JOHNSON to a *beaſt*.
'Tis plain that tales of *ghoſts* are arrant *lies*,
Or inſtantaneouſly would Johnſon riſe,
Make you both eat your paragraphs to evil,
And, for your treatment of him, *play the devil*.
Or thoſe your anecdotes—may I be curſt,
If I can tell you which of them is worſt.

He then recommends to the lady to attend to the duties of a wife, in preference to writing, and concludes with theſe lines:

For thee, James Boſwell, may the hand of fate
Arreſt thy gooſe quill, and confine thy prate;
Or be in ſolitude to live thy luck,
A chattering magpye on the ISLE of MUCK.
Thus ſpoke the judge; then leaping from the chair,
He left in conflernation loſt the FAIR.

PRO-

* *Bookſeller.* † *Dr Johnſon's ſervant.*

PROLOGUE, *occasioned by the Death of* Mr HENDERSON. [p 53.]

Spoken by Mrs SIDDONS, * *at Covent Garden, Feb* 25 1786

Written by ARTHUR MURPHY, *Esq*;

ERE fiction try this night her magic strain,
And blend mysteriously delight with pain;
Ere yet she wake her train of hopes and fears
For Jaffier's wrongs and Belvidera's tears,
Will you permit a true, a recent grief
To vent its charge, and seek that sad relief?
How shall *we* feel the tale of feign'd distress,
While on the heart our own afflictions press?
When our own friend, when *Henderson* expires,
And from the tomb one parting pang requires!
In yonder Abbey shall he rest his head,
And on this spot no virtuous drop be shed?
You will indulge our grief:—Those crowded rows
Shew you have hearts that feel domestic woes;
Hearts that with gen'rous emulation burn,
To raise the widow drooping o'er his urn;
And to his child, when Reason's op'ning ray
Shall tell her *whom* she lost, this truth convey:
Her father's worth made each good man his friend,
Honour'd thro' life, regretted in his end!
And for his relatives to help his store
An audience gave, when he cou'd give no more
Him we all mourn: his friends still heave the sigh,
And still the tear stands trembling in the eye.
His was each mild, each amiable art,
The gentlest manners and the feeling heart:
Fair simple truth; benevolence; to all
A gen'rous warmth, that glow'd at Friendship's call;
A judgement sure, while learning toil'd behind;
His mirth was wit; his humour, sense refin'd;
A soul above all guile, all meaner views;
The friend of Science; friend of ev'ry Muse!
Oft have I known him in my vernal year—
This no feign'd grief, no artificial tear!
Oft in this breast he wak'd the Muses' flame,
Fond to advise, and point my way to fame.
Who most shall praise him, all are still at strife:
Expiring virtue leaves a void in life.
A void our scene has felt:—with Shakespeare's page
Who now like him shall animate the stage?
Hamlet, Macbeth, and Benedick, and Lear,
Richard, and Wolsey, pleas'd each *learned* ear.
If feigning well be our consummate art,
How great *his* praise, who in Iago's part
Could utter thoughts so foreign to his heart?
Falstaff, who shook this house with mirthful roar,
Is now no counterfeit:—he'll rise no more!
'Twas Henderson's the drama to pervade,
Each passion touch, and give each nicer shade.
When o'er these boards the Roman Father pass'd——
But I forbear—that effort was his last.
The Muse there saw his zeal, tho' rack'd with pain,
While the slow fever ambush'd in each vein.
She sought the bed, where pale and wan he lay,
And vainly try'd to chase disease away;
Watch'd ev'ry look, and number'd ev'ry sigh,
And gently, as he liv'd, she saw him die.
Wild with her griefs, she join'd the mournful throng,
With sullen sound as the hearse mov'd along:
Through the dim vaulted aisles she led the way,
And gave to genius past his kindred clay;
Heard the last requiem o'er his relics cold,
And with her tears bedew'd the hallow'd mould.
In faithful verse, there near the lonely cell,
The fair recording epitaph may tell,
That he who now lies mould'ring into dust,
Was good, was upright, generous, and just:
By *talents* form'd to grace the Poet's lays;
By *virtue* form'd to dignify his days.

* *Mrs Siddons, to do honour to the memory of her deceased friend, obtained the consent of the Managers of Drury-Lane, and performed the part of Belvidera; but that character requiring great exertion, and the prologue being unusually long, several lines here printed were omitted on the above night.*

EPITAPH *on Dr* JOHNSON.

By *Soame Jennings, Esq*;

HERE lies poor JOHNSON. Reader have a care,
Tread lightly, lest you rouse a sleeping bear;
Religious, moral, gen'rous, and humane
He was—but self-sufficient, rude, and vain:
Ill-bred and over-bearing in dispute,
A scholar and a Christian—yet a brute.
Would you know all his wisdom and his folly,
His actions, sayings, mirth, and melancholy,
Boswell and *Thrale*, retailers of his wit,
Will tell you how he wrote, and talk'd, and cough'd, and spit.

EPIGRAM.

TOM SLEDGE the blacksmith, by his frequent wheis,
And spending much, contracted many debts.
In this distress he, like some other fools,
Pull'd down his forge, and sold off all his tools;
Nothing was left that would fetch any price;
But after all was sold, Tom kept his VICE.

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

AMERICA.

From the Virginia Gazette, Jan. 26.

An Act for eſtabliſhing Religious Freedom.

Whereas Almighty God hath created the mind free; that all attempts to influence it by temporal puniſhments or burthens, or by civil incapacitations, tend only to beget habits of hypocriſy and meanneſs, and are a departure from the plan of the holy Author of our religion, who being Lord both of body and mind, yet choſe not to propagate it by coercions on either, as was in his Almighty power to do; that the impious preſumption of legiſlators and rulers, civil as well as eccleſiaſtical, who, being themſelves but fallible and uninſpired men, have aſſumed dominion over the faith of others, ſetting up their own opinions and modes of thinking as the only true and infallible, and as ſuch endeavouring to impoſe them on others, hath eſtabliſhed and maintained falſe religions over the greateſt part of the world, and through all time: That to compel a man to furniſh contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he diſbelieves, is ſinful and tyrannical; that even the forcing him to ſupport this or that teacher of his own religious perſuaſion, is depriving him of the comfortable liberty of giving his contributions to the particular paſtor whoſe morals he would make his pattern, and whoſe powers he feels moſt perſuaſive to righteouſneſs; and is withdrawing from the miniſtry thoſe temporary rewards, which proceeding from an approbation of their perſonal conduct, are an additional incitement to earneſt and unremitting labours for the incitement of mankind; that our civil rights have no dependence on our religious opinions, any more than our opinions in phyſic or geometry; that therefore the proſcribing any citizen as unworthy the public confidence, by laying upon him an incapacity of being called to offices of truſt and emolument, unleſs he profeſs or renounce this or that religious opinion, is depriving him injuriouſly of thoſe privileges and advantages to which in common with his fellow citizens he has a natural right; that it tends only to corrupt the principles of that very religion it is meant to encourage, by bribing, with a monopoly of worldly honours and emoluments, thoſe who will externally profeſs and conform to it; that though indeed thoſe are criminal who do not withſtand ſuch temptation, yet neither are thoſe innocent who lay the bait in their way; that to ſuffer the civil magiſtrate to intrude his powers into the field of opinion, and to reſtrain the profeſſion or propagation of principles on ſuppoſition of their ill tendency, is a dangerous fallacy, which at once deſtroys all religious liberty, becauſe he being of courſe judge of that tendency, will make his opinions the rule of judgement, and approve or condemn the ſentiments of others only as they ſhall ſquare with or differ from his own; that it is time enough, for the rightful purpoſes of civil government, for its officers to interfere when principles break out into overt acts againſt peace and good order; and finally, that truth is great, and will prevail if left to herſelf; that ſhe is the proper and ſufficient antagoniſt to error, and has nothing to fear from the conflict, unleſs by human interpoſition diſarmed of her natural weapons, free argument and debate, errors ceaſing to be dangerous when it is permitted freely to contradict them: Be it therefore enacted by the General Aſſembly, that no man ſhall be compelled to frequent or ſupport any religious worſhip, place, or miniſtry whatſoever, nor ſhall be enforced, reſtrained, moleſted, or burthened in his body or goods, nor ſhall otherwiſe ſuffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men ſhall be free to profeſs, and, by argument, to maintain their opinions in matters of religion; and that the ſame ſhall in no wiſe diminiſh, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities.

And though we well know that this Aſſembly, elected by the people for the ordinary purpoſes of legiſlation only, have no power to reſtrain the acts of ſucceeding Aſſemblies, conſtituted with powers equal to our own, and that therefore to declare this act irrevocable would be of no effect in law; yet we are free to declare, and do declare, that the rights hereby aſſerted are the natural rights of mankind, and that if any act ſhall be hereafter paſſed to repeal the preſent, or to narrow its operation, ſuch act will be an infringement of natural right.

An Act to impoſe additional Tonnage on Britiſh Veſſels.

Be it enacted, That the ſeveral Naval Officers ſhall, from and after the 1ſt of February next, receive from the Captain or Commander of every ſhip or veſſel trading to this Commonwealth, owned wholly or in part by a Britiſh ſubject, at entrance

trance, five ſhillings per ton, including the tonnage heretofore impoſed; and the Naval Officer of each diſtrict, when he has reaſon to ſuſpect that any ſhip or veſſel is regiſtered at leſs tonnage than her real burthen, ſhall be empowered to go on board the ſaid ſhip or veſſel, and make a meaſurement of her, agreeably to the carpenters tonnage in this State, which ſaid tonnage ſhall be accounted for and paid into the Treaſury by the ſeveral Naval Officers, in the ſame manner as the tonnage heretofore impoſed.

JOHN BECKLEY, C. H. D.

An act was paſſed, on the 11th March laſt, authoriſing the delegates of the province of South Carolina, to ſubſcribe and ratify an agreement for altering part of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the United States of America, to wit, ſo much of the 8th of the articles, as charges the expences that ſhall be incurred for the common benefit and defence of the ſaid union, to be raiſed in proportion to the value of land in each ſtate: In the place whereof it is declared, that all the expences that ſhall be incurred for the common defence, &c. ſhall be ſupplied by the ſeveral ſtates in proportion to the whole number of white and other free citizens and inhabitants of every age, ſex, and condition, including thoſe bound to ſervitude for a term of years, and three fifths of all other perſons not comprehended in the foregoing deſcription, except Indians not paying taxes in each ſtate; which number ſhall be judiciouſly taken and tranſmitted to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, in ſuch mode as they ſhall direct and appoint.

ENGLAND.

London, April 6. A few days ſince the Albion Mill, on the Surry-ſide of Blackfriars-Bridge, commenced working. This mill, the largeſt in the world, has been erected by the proprietors for the beneficent and ſalutary purpoſe of ſupplying this great metropolis with flour, and of courſe reducing the price of bread. The machinery is worked by the operation of ſteam, and there is every reaſon to expect it will amply fulfil the intent, and fully reward the ingenuity and public ſpirit of thoſe gentlemen who have riſked their money in this arduous and laudable undertaking.

On Monday, April 17. the Lord Mayor of London attended by the Governors of the city hoſpitals, &c. went from the Manſion-houſe to St Bride's, to hear a ſermon preached by the Biſhop of Norwich. During the ſervice the following ſtate of the city hoſpitals was read:

Chriſt's Hoſpital.

Children put forth apprentices and diſcharged		176
Children buried		9
Children now under care at London and Hertford	1032	1196
To be admitted under preſentations	164	

St Bartholomew's.

Admitted, cured, and diſcharged, during the laſt year,

In-patients	3972	11576
Out-patients	7604	
Buried this year		182
Remaining In patients		413
Out-patients		168
Cured and under cure		12339

St. Thomas's Hoſpital.

Cured and diſcharged laſt year,

In patients	3209	8614
Out patients	5405	
Buried laſt year		249
Remaining In patients		460
Out-patients		241
Cured and under cure		9561

Bridewell Hoſpital.

Vagrants received	622
Maintained in the Hoſpital, and brought up to trades	42

Bethlem Hoſpital.

Admitted laſt year	239
Cured of their lunacy and diſcharged	221
Buried	20
Remaining under cure	263

Liſt of the Capital Convicts at the different towns of England for the Lent circuits.

York and City	15	Maidſtone	24
Lancaſter	10	Eaſt Grinſtead	9
Aylesbury	5	Kingſton	15
Bedford	1	Ely	2
Huntingdon	6	Wincheſter	8
Cambridge	6	Sarum	8
Thetford	10	Dorcheſter	3
Bury St Edmund	9	Exon and City	14
Northampton	3	Launceſton	8
Oakham	2	Taunton	19
Lincoln and County	8	Abingdon	7
Nottingham and Town	3	Oxford	3
Derby	3	Worceſter and City	18
Leiceſter & Borough	6	Stafford	16
Coventry	2	Shrewſbury	3
Warwick	10	Hereford	9
Hertford	7	Monmouth	2
Chelmsford	11	Glouceſter and City	16
In all	286		

London, April 18. By papers now lying on the table of the Houſe of Commons for the inſpection of the members, it appears that the ſhips of the line, frigates, &c ſold between Jan. 1. 1782 and Jan. 1. 1786, produced as follows:

In the year 1784	£. 45,028	0	9
In the year 1785	10,950	0	0
Total	55,978	0	9

The ſum for the ſale of old ſtores, including the above ſum, amounts to 87,334l. 3s. 1d. to which add 11,842l. 11s. 8d. and the total is 99,176l. 14s. 9d.

On Wedneſday, April 19. one George Kelway, a labouring man, digging among the ruins of a houſe at Lyme Regis, in Dorſetſhire, diſcovered three ſmall oak cheſts, containing gold and ſilver coin to the value, as it is ſaid, of 2000l. and upwards, chiefly of the coinage of Charles I. and II.; and is ſuppoſed to have been buried at the time of the Duke of Monmouth's landing in the weſt in 1685. — The poor fellow, upon diſcovering this treaſure, immediately loaded himſelf home with a part, and informing his landlord of the event, they both went and took another loading; but unfortunately having taken too much, one of their pockets burſt on the way, and the ſecret being thereby diſcovered, all the neighbourhood flew to the ſpot, and ſuch a ſcene of diſorder and confuſion aroſe, that they may be literally ſaid to have rolled in money. A great part of the money, it is however ſaid, has been ſince recovered.

Hereford, April 20. About nine days ago, a ſmall part of the ſtone work of the inſide roof, under the weſt tower of the Cathedral-church in this city, fell; and continued frequently ſo to do, till laſt Monday afternoon, between ſix and ſeven o'clock, at which time all that beautiful and magnificent ſtructure fell down, and with it part of the body of the church. No perſon has received any hurt, nor has any damage been done to any of the buildings near it, except the muſic-room, which is conſiderably injured. There was a great number of people in the church-yard, it being a remarkably fine day. This tower, which is now a heap of rubbiſh, has been deemed by moſt of the antiquarians to be as beautiful and magnificent a piece of building as any in the kingdom. The height of it was 125 feet; and was erected in the 12th century, by Giles de Bruce, then Biſhop of Hereford. He is repreſented, in the north ſide of the choir, holding the model of a tower in his hand, not unlike what that beautiful and magnificent edifice was. The ruins, though awful, afford a pleaſing view, eſpecially to behold the ſtatues of Kings and Biſhops reſting one upon another.

By an account on the table of the Houſe of Commons, of the corn *imported* into this kingdom laſt year, it appears, that there were of

Barley	63,858 qrs.
Oats	281,018
Wheat	87,144
Beans	9,162
Peaſe	6,735
Rye	28,738

Letter from Mr W. Roe, at Fransfield, near Nottingham, to the Rt Hon. Ld G. Gordon.

My Lord, The ſociety at Calverton which your Lordſhip was pleaſed ſome time ſince to honour with your notice, has ordered me to acquaint your Lordſhip, that the two juſtices of peace, Meſſrs. Sedley and Charlton, have ſeized Thomas Buſh and Elizabeth Buſh his wife, and committed them both to jail on Tueſday, where they are likely to remain all their lives. I am further to inform your Lordſhip, that the pariſh officers have commenced a proſecution in the Spiritual Court againſt the ſaid E. Buſh and her ſiſter Iſabel Roe, the wife of John Roe; and that a few weeks ago the miniſter of the pariſh of Calverton, Mr James Bingham, excommunicated them both at the pariſh church. We hear that in a few days they are to ſeize Iſabel Roe, and put her in priſon alſo; and my brother ſays he expects to be committed every day, and all amongſt us who have married agreeable to our own ceremonies are likely to undergo the ſame fate, unleſs it ſhall pleaſe God to deliver us out of their hands; and as he has again, we truſt, directed us to apply to your Lordſhip, we have hopes that our earneſt prayers to be delivered from our oppreſſors will be heard; and when we conſider your Lordſhip's good will and readineſs to give us all the aſſiſtance in your power, we flatter ourſelves that that very deſirable period is at no very great diſtance. We therefore moſt humbly beſeech your Lordſhip to draw up a petition, and ſend it us down, and we will ſign our names to it, and ſend it back to your Lordſhip, in order that your Lordſhip may diſpoſe of it in

in any way that may ſeem moſt eligible. We earneſtly deſire your Lordſhip to direct us how we ſhall proceed, and you will thereby, if poſſible, more firmly unite the hearts of our whole ſociety to your Lordſhip, inducing each one amongſt us, by the irreſiſtible force of love and gratitude, to pray for your Lordſhip's happineſs, proſperity, and welfare in this world, and in the world to come life everlaſting.

By order of the Society, your Lordſhip's moſt humble ſervant,

WILLIAM ROE."

Franſield, March. 22.

SCOTLAND.

A petition from the Society for Propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, was moved in the Houſe of Commons on Tueſday April 4. by Sir Adam Ferguſſon, for the purpoſe of procuring a ſupply for the future maintenance of about thirty or forty Schoolmaſters, who had been employed in different parts of the country by the Commiſſioners of the Annexed Eſtates, and whoſe ſalaries have fallen, in conſequence of theſe Eſtates being now returned to the heirs of the forfeited perſons. The Society very juſtly conſidered the ſituations of theſe poor Schoolmaſters as highly deſerving the notice of Government, and therefore have made the preſent application, for allowance of a certain ſum of the unappropriated money payable by theſe heirs; in conſideration of which the Society oblige themſelves to make a ſuitable proviſion for the Schoolmaſters during the remainder of their lives.

On Friday, April 7. a perſon introduced himſelf to a lady in Dalkeith, as a Major Gordon, from the Eaſt Indies, intimately acquainted with her ſon, from whom he had brought ſeveral very valuable boxes, &c. and ſeveral letters for her and her friends, in one of which was a bill for 400 l. Sterling, to fit out another of her ſons for the Eaſt Indies, and ſeemed to be very particularly acquainted with her ſituation and her connections, more ſo than could be expected from a ſtranger. He ſat two hours, and drank a glaſs of wine, but would not dine. He told the lady all the goods were landed at Berwick; that her ſon had paid the freight, and that ſhe had only to pay 6l. 15s. 6d. Sterling for Cuſtom-houſe dues, for which he produced a receipt; that the goods were on the road from Berwick, along with ſome for the Ducheſs of Gordon; and that her Grace was to pay the land-carriage for the whole. The lady (ſuſpecting) made a genteel apology, and promiſed to pay the money on receipt of the goods. The goods however never came to hand.—This impoſtor, after having been more ſucceſsful in ſeveral tricks of the ſame kind, was at laſt taken into cuſtody at Dundee, and was ſent to Edinburgh to be tried.

On Wedneſday, April 12. the annual Harveian Oration, the ſubject of which was an account of the life, writings, and character of the late Dr William Hunter, of London, was delivered in the hall of the Public Diſpenſary; after which, the Prize given by the Harveian Society for 1785, was preſented to Mr JOHN LEIGH, from Virginia, author of the beſt experimental eſſay tranſmitted to the Society on the ſubject of *Opium*. An experimental enquiry concerning the nature and properties of the *Hyoſciamus*, its effects on the human ſyſtem, its uſe in the cure of diſeaſes, and the comparative power of different parts of the plant, was afterwards announced as the ſubject of prize-diſſertations for 1786; and an experimental enquiry concerning the chemical and medical effects of thoſe ſubſtances called *Lithontriptics*, particularly on the human calculus, was announced as the ſubject of prize diſſertations for 1787. Diſſertations on the firſt of theſe ſubjects muſt be tranſmitted to Drs Duncan or Webſter, by the 1ſt of January 1787, and on the laſt by the 1ſt of January 1788. Each diſſertation muſt be accompanied with a ſealed letter, bearing the ſame epigraphe with the diſſertation, and incloſing the name of the author.

The Circuit Court of Juſticiary was opened at Jedburgh, April 10. by Lord Braxfield; but there being no criminal buſineſs, the court adjourned to the 12th, when it proceeded to Dumfries.

At Dumfries, April 15. the court was opened by Lords Juſtice Clerk and Braxfield. Sentence of outlawry and fugitation for non compearance, was pronounced againſt Henry Ridell, reſidenter in Creetown, in the pariſh of Kirkmabreck, and ſtewartry of Kirkcudbright, accuſed of horſe ſtealing.—George Wills, formerly reſidenter in the town of Glaſgow, was accuſed of picking the pocket of John Armſtrong, farmer in Hoddom-town at the Eccleſechan fair in February laſt, of his pocket-book, containing fourteen guinea-notes, and one twenty ſhilling note.

note. The King's counſel reſtricted the libel to an arbitrary puniſhment; and Wills being found guilty, was ſentenced to be whipt through the ſtreets of Dumfries, upon Wedneſday the 31 May next, to be tranſported to one or other of his Majeſty's plantations or colonies in America, or any other place beyond ſeas, to be named by his Majeſty, with the advice of his Privy Council, for life, and his ſervice adjudged for ſeven years.—John Wylie, farmer in Upper Leehouſes, in the pariſh of Gratney, and county of Dumfries, indicted for deforcing the officers of the revenue when ſeizing a parcel of ſalt, was unanimouſly found not guilty by the jury, and diſmiſſed from the bar.

Lord Braxfield opened the Court at Ayr, April 20.——The only buſineſs to come before the Court was the trial of Samuel Pirrie, late poſt boy or rider of the mail betwixt Ballantree and Stranraer, accuſed of robbing the mail of a packet containing 18l.; and of Jean Fitchie, his ſtepmother, ſpouſe of John Pirrie, late reſidenter in Hillhead of Stranraer, accuſed of reſetting the ſaid notes, knowing them to be ſtolen. Jean Fitchie was not in cuſtody, and not appearing, ſentence of outlawry and fugitation was pronounced againſt her.—The trial went on as to the ſon; and the jury unanimouſly found him guilty of the theft libelled; but in reſpect of his tender age, being under or little above fourteen years, his apparent weakneſs of underſtanding, his open and candid confeſſion, and that it appeared by the evidence, that he committed the crime at the inſtigation and for the benefit of his ſtepmother, recommended him to the royal mercy. He was ſentenced by the Court to be hanged upon the 23d June next.

This ends the Southern Circuit.

MARRIAGES.

Sept. 26. 1785. At Calcutta, Capt. William Kirkpatrick, ſecretary to Gen. Sloper, to Miſs Maria Seton Pawſon, daughter of the late George Pawſon, Eſq; wine-merchant, London.

March 24 1786. At Bruſſels, Lord John Ruſſel, brother of the Duke of Bedford, to the Hon Georgina Elizabeth Byng, ſecond daughter of Lord Viſcount Torrington, his Britannic Majeſty's miniſter plenipotentiary at that court.

30 John Brander, Eſq; of Pitgaveny, to Miſs Peggy Brander, daughter of Mr Alexander Brander, merchant in Elgin.

April 3. At Drum, near Port-Glaſgow, Capt Alexander Macpherſon, to Miſs Suſannah King, daughter of James King, Eſq; of Drum.

3 Dr John Gilchriſt, phyſician in Dumfries, to Miſs May Ewart, daughter of the Rev. Mr John Ewart, miniſter at Troqueer.

3. At London, the Hon. Capt. Conway, ſon of Lord Hertford, to the Hon Lady Horatio Waldegrave, ſecond daughter of the Dutcheſs of Glouceſter

5 John Innes, Eſq; to Miſs Skae, of Edinburgh

6 At the houſe of Alexander Hamilton, Eſq; of Grange, in the county of Ayr, Edward Maccormick, Eſq; Advocate, to Miſs Hamilton.

19 At Hope Park, Charles Stewart of Dalguiſe, Eſq; to Miſs Grace Stewart, eldeſt daughter of the deceaſed Robert Stewart of Ballechin Eſq;

24 At Scouſtoun, Robert Haldane, Eſq; of Airthrey, to Miſs Catharine Cochrane Oſwald, ſecond daughter of George Oſwald, Eſq; of Scouſtoun.

David Urquhart, Eſq; of Braelangwell, to Mrs Lockhart of Newhall.

BIRTHS.

March 27. At Woodſide-houſe, Mrs Strachan of Woodſide, of a daughter

31 Mrs Brydone, wife of Patrick Brydone, Eſq; of a daughter

April 12. At Makerſton, the Lady of Sir Henry Hay Macdougall, Bt, of a daughter.

27 A woman of Lower Darwen, near Blackburn, of five children. Only two of them were born alive, and they are ſince dead.

DEATHS.

Oct. 5. 1785. At Calcutta, Mr George Gardner of Ladykirk.

11 In the province of Bahar, in the Eaſt Indies, Mr William Moubray, ſurgeon in the Eaſt India Company's ſervice

Oct. At Calcutta, Charles Churchill, Eſq; ſecretary to the Governor-General

Lately, in India, Mr John Wordie, late one of the magiſtrates of Edinburgh.

Lately, at Potſdam, Col Vantroſcke. In teſtimony of the King's eſteem for that valuable officer, his Majeſty ſent the following letters to the Colonel's widow

I. "The death of Col Vantroſcke, your huſband, commanding the regiment of Old Waldeck, has affected me in a very particular manner. By his death I am deprived of a brave and good officer. Such was the reputation he enjoyed univerſally, and I know full well how to value the important ſervices he has rendered me. The inſignia of the Order of Merit, which he received from me, and which you return with thanks to me for the favours I had conferred on him, will remain for

for you and your children everlaſting tokens of the well-earned diſtinction which he received at my hands But I ſhall not ſtop here; you may, on the contrary, reſt aſſured, that I certainly will forget neither the widow of ſo deſerving an officer, nor the children that he has left behind Let me know, without any reſerve, the real ſtate of your domeſtic concerns at the moment of his death, the number and age of your children. Communicate this matter to me, as to one ever diſpoſed to give you a proof of his benevolence."

Potſdam, Jan 21

In the King's own hand.

"P. S. I have honoured your huſband, as the model of an excellent officer; but ſince, alas! he is no more, I ſhall be to his children a father: I mean to do for them and his widow all that a parent could have done. Let me have only the true ſtate of your means, and I engage to do the needful for the ſatisfaction of the family."

II. "I ſhall between this and next Trinity lay out 20,000 rix-dollars in the purchaſe of an eſtate for your three children, the whole direction and management of which ſhall remain in your hands. You muſt apply to the eccleſiaſtical department, to ſee whether there be two vacancies in a nunnery within the country of Cleves, or the province of Weſtphalia, for your two young ladies: when marriageable, I ſhall take them away, and ſettle them in the world FREDERIC."

Lately, on Donny-brook road, Ireland the old blind pauper, named Thomas Kelly, at the age of 107, who had enjoyed an almoſt uninterrupted courſe of health through that uncommon length of life, and perfectly retained his intellectual faculties, and poſſeſſed all his ſenſes (ſave ſight) unimpaired to the laſt moment of his exiſtence. He had attended Colonel Hamilton, previous to King William's memorable paſſage of the Boyne in 1690, and ſome years after, when about 30 years of age, was ſtruck blind by lightning on Lucan hill where he ſolicited a countryman ploughing to let him try his hand at the buſineſs; immediately after which he encountered a flaſh, which not only deprived him of ſight, but killed a team of ſix horſes inſtantaneouſly.

Kingſton, Jan. 21. 1786. At Adm. Penn's, in Liguanea, Rear-Adm. Innes, commander in chief of his Majeſty's ſhips upon that ſtation, in the 85th year of his age.

Lately, in France, Capt Rumbold, of the guards.

Lately, in Somerſetſhire, George Burgeſs, Eſq; comptroller-general of the cuſtoms in Scotland

Lately, at his ſeat in the New Foreſt, Hampſhire, Charles Strudwick, Eſq; in the 102d year of his age. He acquired a conſiderable fortune in being agent for priſoners in the wars of Queen Anne, and George I. and II.

March 27 At Nice Sackville Earl of Thanet, hereditary ſheriff of the county of Weſtmoreland. He has left five ſons and two daughters.

30. At his houſe of Inverwick, Patrick Grant of Glenmoriſton, Eſq; in the 86th year of his age.

April At Scarborough, in her 106th year, Mrs Hunter.

1. At Deptford, Ralph Carre, Eſq; ſon of the deceaſed John Carre, Eſq; of Cavers.

2 At Edinburgh, Mrs Chriſtian Laidlaw, ſpouſe of Mr William Gowan, merchant in Edinburgh

3 At Aberdeen, Mrs Forbes of Brux.

3. At Dumfries, Mr John M'Kinnel of Glen.

4. At Dundonell, Mrs Jean Mackenzie, daughter of the deceaſed Sir Kenneth Mackenzie of Scatwell, Bt. and wife of Kenneth Mackenzie of Dundonell.

4. In Goldſmith ſtreet, Gough-ſquare, London, overwhelmed with age, infirmities, and poverty, Mr Wells Egelſham, a character not unknown in the regions of politics, porter, and tobacco. He was originally bred to the profeſſion of a printer, and worked in that buſineſs, as a compoſitor, till diſabled by repeated attacks of a formidable gout. For ſome years he was employed in the ſervice of Mr Woodfal, the father of the preſent printers of the Public Advertiſer and Morning Chronicle, to the former of which papers the name of Egelſham appeared for ſome time as the oſtenſible publiſher. Having from nature a remarkable ſquint, to obviate the reflections of others he aſſumed the name of Winkey; and publiſhed a little volume of humorous poetry in 1769, under the title of "Winkey's Whims." He was one of the founders of the honourable ſociety of Johns. The latter part of his life has been principally ſupported by the profits of a very ſmall ſnuff and tobacco ſhop, by the collecting of paragraphs for the Public Advertiſer, and by officiating occaſionally as an amanuenſis to the writer of this ſketch to his memory. His widow is left in great diſtreſs

4. At Stoken-church, Oxfordſhire, in her 100th year, Mrs Maſon, relict of John Maſon, Eſq;

7 At Binny, Robert Stewart, Eſq; of Binny.

7. At London, George Rois, Eſq; of Cromarty, member of parliament for the Orkney boroughs.

9 At Inverneſk, Mrs Hope.

14. At Ochiltree, the Rev. Mr George Reid, aged upwards of 90. and more than 60 years miniſter of that pariſh

17 At Carronhall, Thomas Dundas, Eſq; of Fingask.

18 At

18. At Edinburgh, Mr William Haſtie, late ſurgeon to the 12th regiment.

22. At Edinburgh Mrs Janet Gloag, widow of Mr William Good, late deacon of the wrights in that city.

23 The Rev Richard Conyers, D. D. rector of St Paul's, Deptford. On the morning of his deceaſe he was unuſually chearful, and about the uſual time he went to church, where, after the prayers were over, he aſcended the pulpit, and had juſt named his text, which was in the Acts of the Apoſtles, "Ye ſhall ſee my face no more," when he was ſeized with a ſudden fainting, and fell back in the pulpit, from which he recovered, however, ſufficiently to proceed with his ſermon; after which, having given the concluſive bleſſing, he again fainted away, and was taken home, where he continued ill till about ſix o'clock, when he expired without a groan.

24. At Edinburgh, Houſton Stewart Nicolſon, Eſq; of Carnock.

24. At Loudon Caſtle, James Earl of Loudon, Major-General in his Majeſty's ſervice.

25 At Barnet, in the 100th year of his age, Mr Job Meretton. He has lived for the laſt twenty years wholly on vegetable diet, without any other beverage than milk, of which he took one pint every morning at breakfaſt, and never drank the whole day after.

27 The Rev. Mr Robert Paton, miniſter of Laſſwade.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

April 8. to preſent the Rev. Andrew Gibſon to the church and pariſh of Muckart, in the preſbytery of Auchterarder and ſhire of Perth, void by the death of the Rev. Mr Archibald Rannie.

11. to appoint Sir Guy Carleton, K. B. to be Captain-General and Governor in Chief in and over the province of Quebec, in America, in the room of Sir Frederick Haldimand, K. B.—Alſo, Captain-General and Governor in Chief in and over the province of Nova Scotia, including the iſlands of St John and Cape Breton, in America, in the room of John Parr, Eſq; and of the province of New Brunſwick, in America, in the room of Thomas Carleton, Eſq;—And likewiſe, General and Commander in Chief of his Majeſty's forces in the above-mentioned provinces and iſlands, and within the iſland of Newfoundland.

18 to appoint the Earl of Leven to be his Majeſty's High Commiſſioner to the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

From other papers.

April 5. Philip Paton, Eſq; late Comptroller of the Cuſtoms at the port of Kirkaldy, is appointed Collector of the Cuſtoms and Saltduties at that port, in place of Robert Whyte Eſq; deceaſed.

Lord Napier has preſented the Rev Mr David Grant, miniſter of the goſpel at Newcaſtle, to the pariſh and church of Ettrick, in the preſbytery of Selkirk.

The Commiſſioners of the Treaſury have appointed John Thomſon and Adam Pearſon, Eſqs, Joint Secretaries of Exciſe for Scotland.

On April 24 Thomas Steuart, Eſq; ſecretary of the Bank of Scotland, was appointed Treaſurer of the Bank, in the place of James Spence, Eſq; who retires on account of his age and bad ſtate of health:—And, on the 25th, James Fraſer, Eſq; aſſiſtant-ſecretary, was appointed Secretary.

Prices of Grain at Haddington, May 12.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	20s. 6d.	19s. 0d.	18s. 0d.
Bear,	15s. 6d.	14s. 6d.	13s. 6d.
Oats,	15s. 0d.	13s. 6d.	12s. 0d.
Peaſe,	14s. 0d.	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d.

Edinburgh, May 9. 1786. Oat-meal, 1s. Bear-meal, 8d. Peaſe meal, 8d.

Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard in April.

Males 24, Females 35 } 59. Decreaſed 21.

Age.	No	Diseases, &c.	No
Under 2	17	Aged — —	10
Between 2 & 5	5	Aſthma — —	1
5 & 10	3	Bowelhive — —	3
10 & 20	5	Chincough —	4
20 & 30	4	Conſumption —	16
30 & 40	4	Fever —	11
40 & 50	3	Meaſles — —	1
50 & 60	4	Palſy — —	2
60 & 70	5	Suddenly — —	1
70 & 80	3	Smallpox — —	2
80 & 90	3	Stillborn — —	2
90 & 100	1	Teething —	6

PRICES OF STOCKS, April 13

3 per cent. red 68⅜ ex Div.
3 per cent. conſ 69⅛
4 per cent. conſ 87 a 86¾ ex Div.
Bank Long Ann 20 11-16 hs.
Ann. 1778, 1779, 13⅝ a ½
5 per cent. 104½ a ¾ a ⅝
India Bonds, 46s. a 45s. Prem.

April 29.

Bank Stock 137½
3 per cent. red 68⅞ a 69
3 per cent. conſ 70 a 69⅞ a 70
4 per Ct. Conſ 88 a 87⅞ a 88
5 per cent. 106½ a ⅝ a ½
Bank Long Ann. 20 15-16ths a 21
Ann 1778, 1779, 13 1-16th.
India Ann. 65¼ a ⅜
India Bonds, 47s. Pr.
Old Ann. 67⅝ a ⅞
New Navy, 2¼ Diſc.